



Dear BLA Supporter,

April 15, 2025

It seems like we just said “Good-bye” and now are about to say “Hello” once again. Though we had little snow this winter we had our share of stormy, icy, slushy weather starting in March. This is another reminder of the changes in our weather patterns and the effects they have on our lakes. They are freezing later and again this year we will have an early ice-out. Our lakes no longer enjoy “a long winter’s sleep” which makes our job of preserving water quality even more important.

How do we do that? The single most consequential action we can take is simply to

KEEP THE DIRT OUT OF THE LAKE!

Water Quality can seem overwhelming to the individual. Do you wonder what impact I can have on the entire lake? What can one person do? Here are three ways to have a direct impact on keeping our lakes clean:

1. Make sure your property has a buffer between the water and the land. This will help filter out dirt that makes its way to the lake. Commit to plant at least one plant for every member of your household along the waterfront THIS summer.
2. Check your septic system. Do you know where it is? When was the last time it was checked? Pump your system if you haven’t done this in the past three years. It is recommended this be pumped every two-three years for a year-round home and every four-five years for a seasonal home
3. Renew your membership in BLA to support our larger efforts to preserve and protect our lakes.

There is never a better time to be a member of the Belgrade Lakes Association. We continue to be a leader in preserving our lakes. This past year affirmed our actions in:

- fighting aquatic invasive plants (including milfoil and curly leaf pond weed).
- supporting the Courtesy Boat Inspection program.
- assisting the Youth Conservation Corps, LakeSmart, and Adopt-a-Shoreline programs.
- helping fund the Erosion Control Manager who supervises the Great Pond and Long Pond Watershed Management Plans.
- continuing our Loon Preservation Project.

We have great plans for 2025. We will kickoff the season with a member-only event at the Village Inn on Memorial Day weekend, **Saturday, May 24th from 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM**. We will be signing up new members so please bring a friend to join. Last year we had great time welcoming folks back to the lake. Our Annual Meeting at the Belgrade Lakes Golf Course will be held on **Sunday, July 27th from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**.

We are all in this together and together can strengthen the work of BLA. Before you know it the boats will be out of storage, engines will be tuned up, the docks will be in, and fishing licenses will be purchased. It will be summer in the Belgrades - complete with all those special moments we

love so dearly.

Maine - The Way Life Should Be! Help us keep it that way!

Stephanie Gardner
Membership Co-Chair

Carol Johnson
Membership Co-Chair