

Annual report from the MLWA

The focus of the Mirror Lake Watershed Association's past activities continues to be to raise awareness and protect Mirror Lake and surrounding water bodies from adverse impacts to water quality. This year, there was an increased effort to locate and harvest potential new invasive species, particularly variable leaf milfoil, before they become established.

Year in review

• Brian Delaney was awarded the ninth annual "Frog Award" for his efforts in organizing underwater and shoreline cleaning and promoting clean healthy activities. The award this year was a photo donated by John Eldridge.

• A Lake Champlain Basin Program grant was obtained by the Village of Lake Placid with support from the Association. The grant funded a survey of the East side of Mirror Lake and conceptual design of a new stormwater system along Mirror Lake Drive, inside the village limits. The goal is to create an improved system to divert stormwater away from the lake or treat before it enters the lake, thereby improving water quality.

• Invasive species were harvested and inventoried around Mirror Lake and its watershed including purple loosestrife and yellow Iris. This is ongoing annually to manage and contain the invasive plants and has shown remarkable effectiveness.

• Fundraising and conceptual design of an informational kiosk was initiated for Jewtraw Park in cooperation with the Mill Pond association. An agreement with the village of Lake Placid for design and construction has been developed with installation planned for next spring.

• Water testing was put on hold this year by the state Department of Environmental Conservation. It will continue next year.

Goals for 2013

In the coming year the MLWA has set the following goals:

• Continuing to inventory and harvest purple loosestrife, yellow Iris, and Japanese knotweed and continued searching for potential new invasive species.

• Seeking a writer to do monthly articles to educate the public concerning water quality issues.

• Designing and constructing an informational kiosk with facts about Mirror Lake.

• Expanding our area of concern downstream to include the Chubb and

Ausable Rivers.

• Researching and promoting more "lake friendly" products such as de-icing agents and non-phosphate lawn fertilizers.

• Continuing the on going effort to clean-up Mirror Lake's under weater garbage and surrounding areas.

The MLWA meets the second Monday of every month at 5 pm at the Mirror Lake Peacock Beach House, or contact Bill Billerman at 523-8925.