

The Reservoir Review

A Newsletter About Life on Neponset Reservoir

BUOY ADDITIONS TO NEPONSET RESERVOIR

ONE CANNOT ARGUE that buoys certainly have a place on our waterways. They function to serve as navigational aids to give boaters information about the specific body of water. They often are referred to as traffic lights of the waterways, given they also let boaters know to control speed, protect resources and direct traffic.



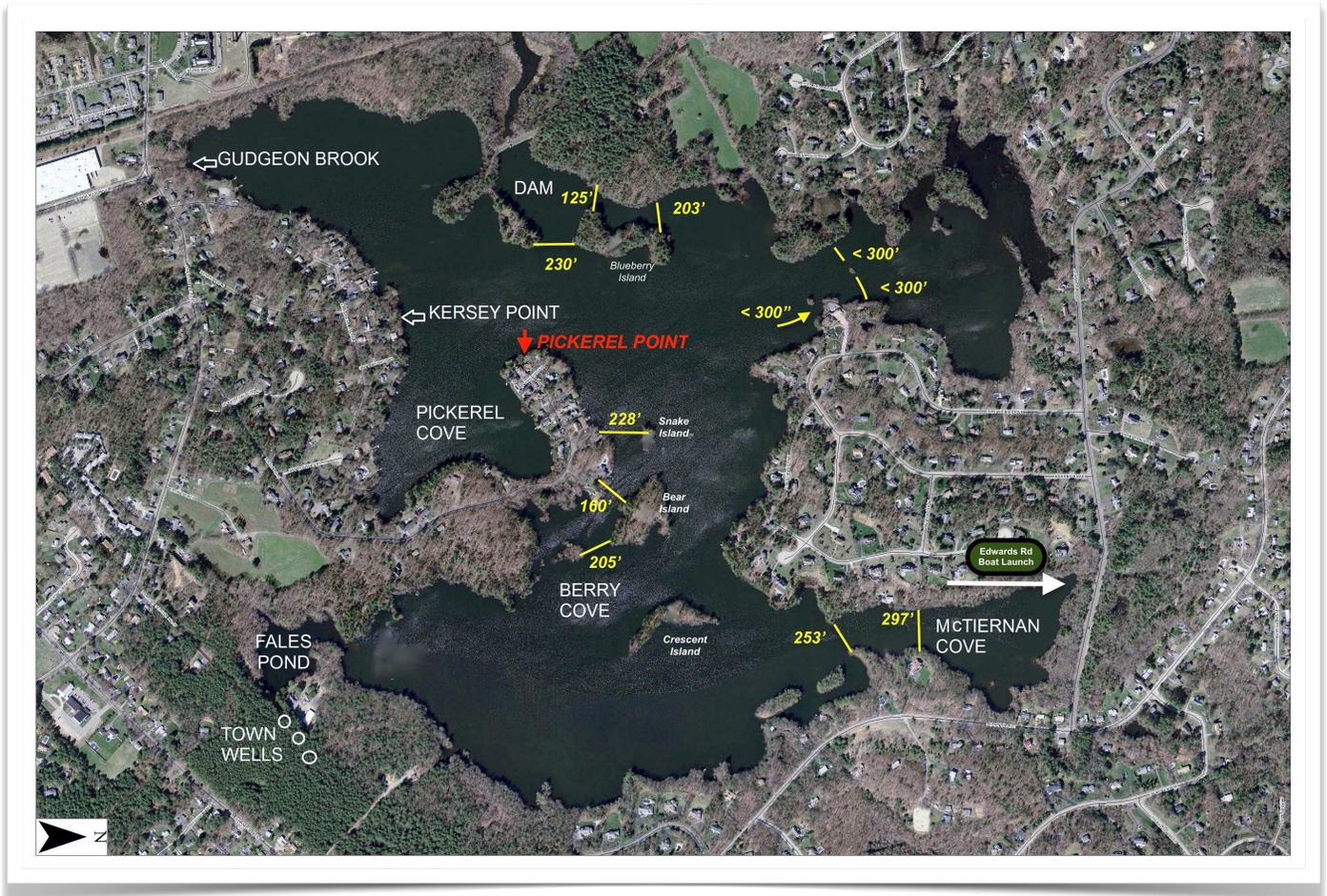
Back in the Summer of 2021, our Reservoir Review Newsletter spotlighted a meeting the NRRC had with Lt. Gray from the Massachusetts Environmental Police, who reminded us that shorelines of all lakes must be protected. This is done by adhering to the Massachusetts Maritime rule that states boats must operate at 6 mph within 150 ft. of a shoreline (300 ft between 2 shorelines).

Following that meeting with Lt. Gray, the NRRC, in conjunction with the Foxborough Conservation Commission, who is charged with protecting the land, water and biological resources of our lake, identified those locations where No Wake Zones needed to be observed.

With that, the schedule to put in the first two buoys at Blueberry Island took place last summer. No Wake Zone buoys were put in at either end of Blueberry Island to alert boaters and jet skiers that those shorelines were within the boundaries of the No Wake Zones and thereby, the 6 mph speed must be observed.

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This summer, if you've recently been boating between Ridge Rd, Snake Island, and Bear Island, you've no doubt, noticed some additional buoys on the Reservoir. Specifically, between Ridge Rd and Snake Island; between Snake Island and Bear Island; and just off Bear Island as you enter Berry Cove. All these buoy locations serve to alert boaters and jet skiers that they must be aware and follow the maritime rule of no wakes in those areas.



The map, above, points out in yellow, those areas where the speed limit of 6 mph within 150 feet of the shoreline, 300 ft between two shorelines, must be observed.

Also during that meeting, Lt Gray spoke about Massachusetts Environmental Police's plan to occasionally include Neponset Reservoir into their schedule to patrol the waters, to assure compliance.

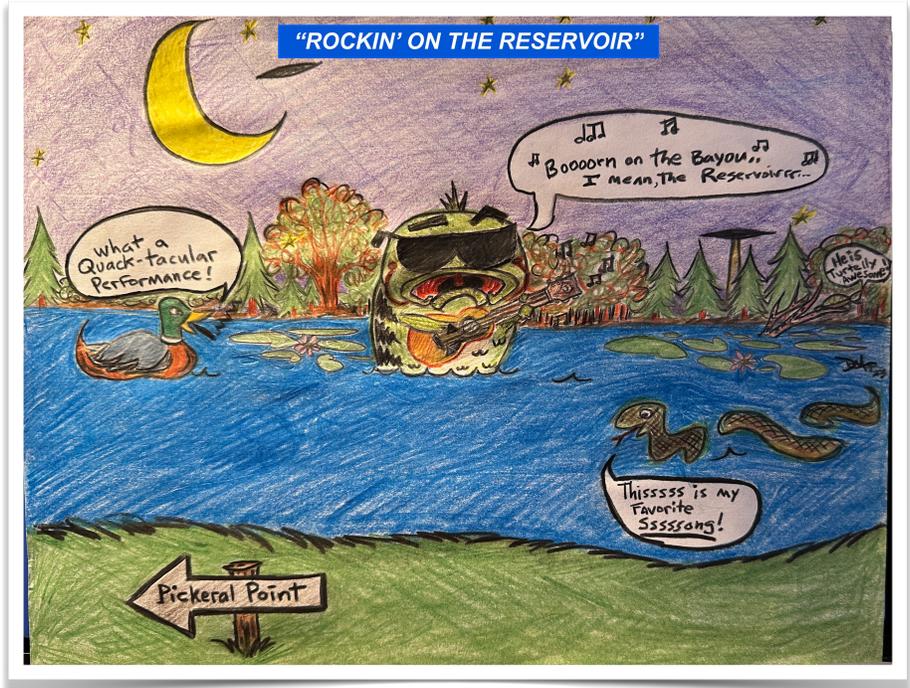


“ROCKIN’ ON THE RESERVOIR” BOAT NIGHT



Yep...you’ve read that right! On **SATURDAY, JULY 29** from **5:30 PM-8:30 PM** on the water, at Ridge Road Point, there’ll be music to get your hands clapping and your feet tapping! Join us for a fun night of tasty tunes from the 60’s thru current artists!

Dave Warner, Jr., affectionately known as Big Dave, is a well known entertainer, acoustic guitarist and singer, who often performs at many local places such as The Downtown in Norton, The Catman Cafe in Mansfield and many other venues. Big Dave will have his amplifier turned up, his guitar tuned up and will get the party rockin’!



Drawing by David Warner, Jr

Dave has offered to do the concert so neighbors can get out and enjoy the lake and some music, as well as for lake residents to get to know one another.

Paddle out in your kayak, canoe, or load up your boat with food and friends and drop anchor in front of PICKEREL POINT to enjoy the music! Where’s PICKEREL POINT? See lake map on front page of this Newsletter. Location is in **RED**. No boat? You can walk-in and listen from the Lane Property (entrance at North St) and also at Kersey Point.

Mark your calendar and see you on July 29! Rain date is Sunday, July 30, same time.



BE ON THE LOOKOUT....WATER CHESTNUTS ARE BACK!

Water chestnuts are a nuisance on any lake. They can completely cover the surface of a waterbody and cause ecological hardship to native plants and animals. They can form large floating mats of vegetation making fishing or boating near impossible. Their dense strands can reach more than a foot.



Photo courtesy of invasive.org

How do you identify water chestnuts? Its floating leaves are triangular in shape with saw-toothed edges and hollow air-filled stems. Leaves form a rosette around a central point. Its tiny flowers generally bloom in June and are four-petaled and white.

Each rosette can produce up to 20 hard nuts with four-inch spines that have barbs along them. Seeds within fruits can remain viable for up to 12 years.

Every few years, small groups of people living on the Reservoir have gone out and performed a Chestnut Pull whereby they've spent a few hours pulling them, successfully leaving the Reservoir free of water chestnuts....until they return again a couple years later!

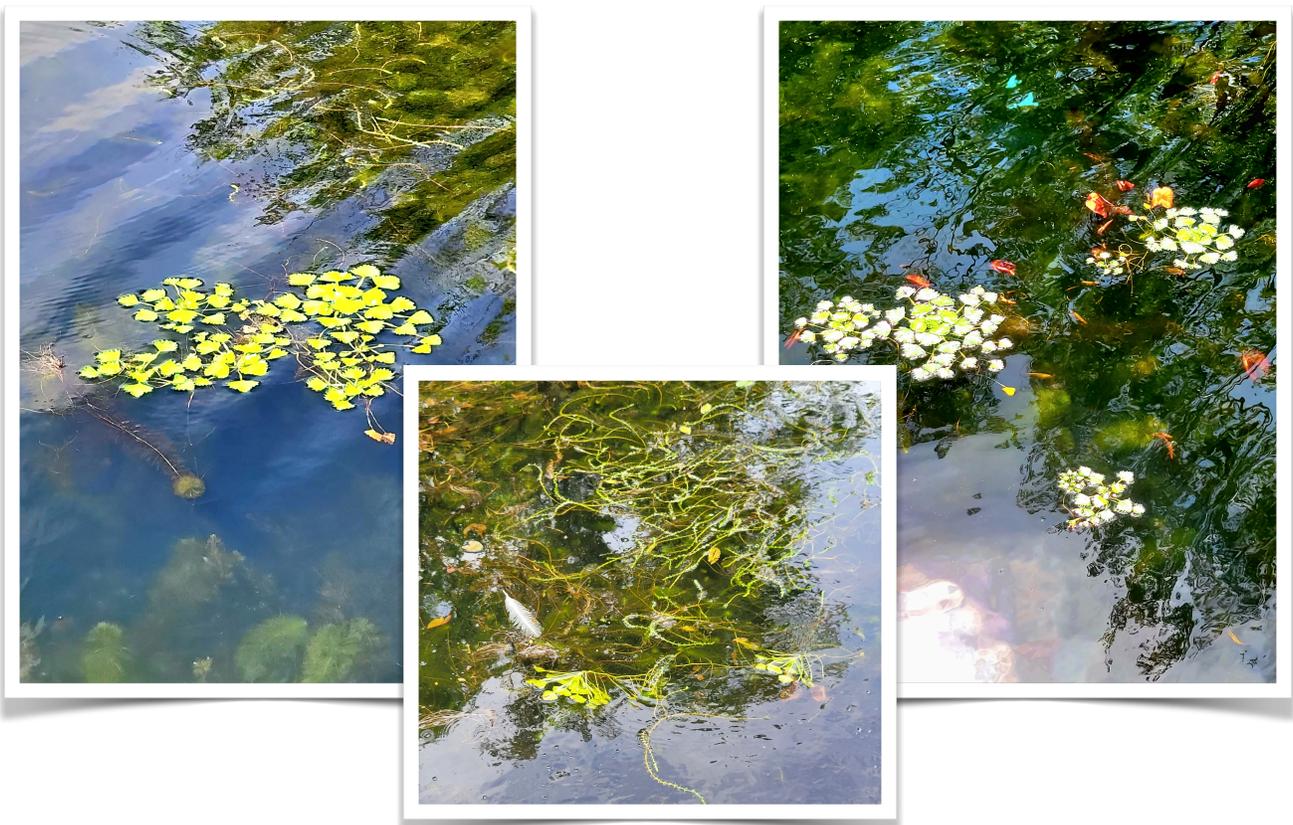
This was just what happened recently when one one resident was out in her kayak and came across a fair amount of them. The boater pulled what she could however, it tells us they're back and we should be on the lookout for them.

How do you correctly pull these troublesome species? To begin, it's best done from a canoe or kayak. Also, attach or bring along a basket in which to put the pulled water chestnuts. You're now ready to pull. According to oars3rivers.org, do the following:

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1. Pull them before mid-August when the plants drop their seeds for the year.
2. Pull the entire plant gently out gripping as far down the stem as you can conveniently reach. They are not deeply rooted and should come up easily. Make sure that you get the entire rosette with the nuts (seeds), since the water chestnut spread by seed, and as much of the stem as you can (break off the stem if needed). Put them in a basket or directly in your canoe.
3. Compost the plants well away from the river so that seeds are not washed back into the river. Below are pictures of the water chestnuts pulled on Neponset Reservoir. Be on the lookout for this invasive species and pull them if you can.

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Photos courtesy of Sheila Warner



LETTER FROM THE NRRC PRESIDENT...



July, 2023

Dear Neponset Reservoir Neighbors,

As President of the NRRC, the Committee who, in collaboration with the Town of Foxborough's Conservation Commission, oversees the ecological and environmental quality of the lake, as well as works to educate and enhance opportunities for recreation and community, I wanted to share some updates with you on future plans.

With many new residents moving into the area and enjoying the fruits of what our beautiful lake has to offer, it seems a good time to set up additional platforms for residents to join our meetings and get informed about upcoming events.

In line with this, I wanted to share that on Tuesday, August 1 at 6:30 PM, we will hold our monthly meeting via Zoom, and invite anyone interested to join us. We will post the Zoom ID number for the meeting on our website, (www.neponsetreservoir.com), on Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 PM, along with the Agenda, for all who wish to attend that evening.

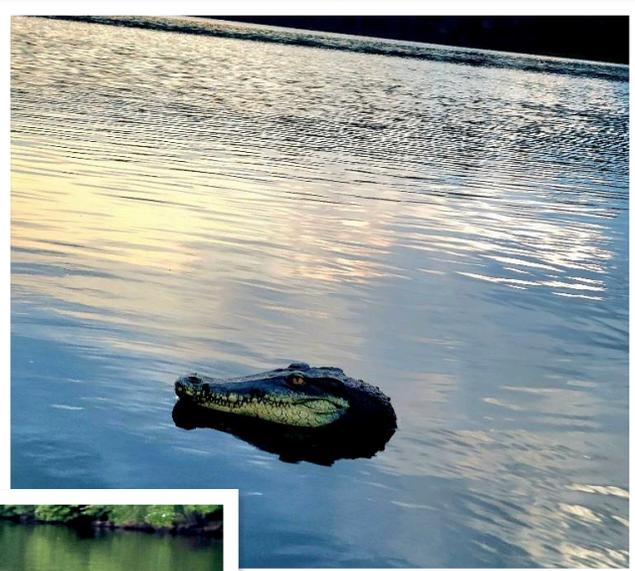
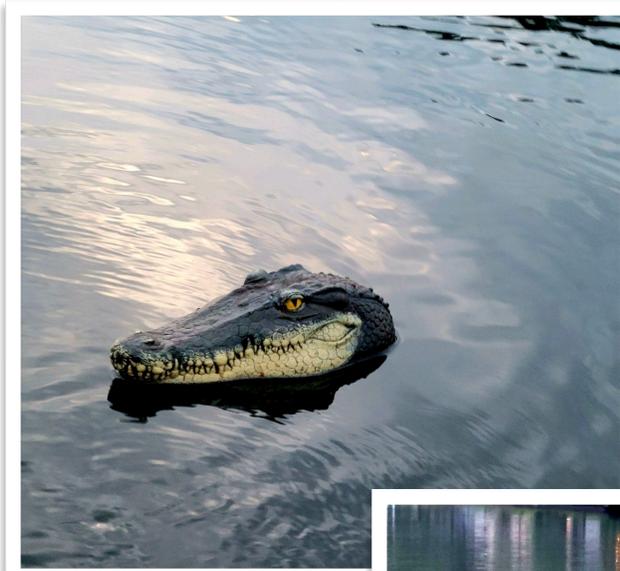
We all want to be good stewards of the land and water that we live on and only through education and community awareness can we hope to continue and improve our resource.

Sincerely,

Mary Peterson, President
Rich Golemme
Maria Goodwin
Horace Jones
Richard Lewis
Janet O'Leary
Thomas Seyfried
Sheila Warner

AN EYE OPENING PADDLE...

Okay....imagine you're out in your kayak, paddling along at dusk, enjoying the solitude, when you come across....**THIS**...by your boat!!



Yes....upon initially seeing "it" the boater almost fell out of their kayak! However, when cooler heads prevailed, they had a good laugh at the seemingly real object. Next time you're around Kersey Point, see if you can spot this repugnant reptile.



LAKE LIFE



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