SPRING 2020



GPA Newsletter

News from the Georges Pond Association

Restoring the Pond

"Game on!" Alum Treatment Begins May 11

Following a year of scientific research and successful fundraising, an alum treatment of the pond will be conducted the week of May 11 if all goes according to plan (and subject, of course, to conditions beyond our control).

The GPA has selected HAB Aquatic Solutions, based in Lincoln, Nebraska, to conduct the treatment after a competitive bidding process was completed. "I have great confidence that this firm will do a superb job for us, given their professional expertise and proven track record in conducting similar projects," GPA President John Eliasberg stated at a recent GPA Board meeting. "Game on!"

The alum treatment will restore the lake's natural chemical balance by increasing the amount of aluminum in the water which, in turn, will bind with excessive phosphorus and produce a non-toxic sediment that will sink to the pond's bottom. When properly applied in the correct dosage and location, aluminum poses little risk to humans, plant life, fish, or birds.

The recommended treatment will cover all areas of Georges Pond deeper than 5 meters, which means approximately 131 of the pond's 358 acres. This initial treatment (with a dosage of 25 g/m²) will cost \$140,000, to be followed by a second treatment (with a dosage of 20 g/m²) in 2021 or 2022 whenever sufficient funds have been raised.

The two treatments combined will likely give the pond twenty years free of algae blooms when combined with Lake Smart efforts to improve properties and roads within the pond's watershed.

Because of the generosity of GPA members and friends, the GPA is now able to cover the cost of this initial treatment. Further fundraising will be needed to pay for the second treatment as well as to make improvements to the Georges Pond watershed, which are necessary to avoid introducing new phosphorus into the lake.



An HAB Aquatic Solutions barge applies aluminum to a lake.

MISSION STATEMENT

Members of the Georges Pond
Association (GPA) are united to
promote the protection and
enhancement of the water quality of
Georges Pond; preserve its ecological,
economic, recreational and aesthetic
value; and work with the members and
other interested parties to monitor
water quality and promote responsible
land use practices.

Georges Pond Association is a 501(c)3 organization.

GeorgesPondAssociation.org



@GeorgesPondAssociation

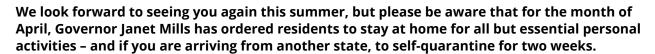
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During these COVID-19 times....

We hope you are safe and well, wherever you are. Our thoughts and best wishes are with each of you, and let's continue to wash our hands, be responsible, and look out for each other.

With your support, the GPA has worked throughout the winter to advance our critical projects.





Opening Camp While Protecting the Lake

The following are tips you can use to make the opening of your camp safer for the lake and its wildlife:

Raking: DO NOT rake up the duff layer of leaves and pine needles that build up under the trees. These leaves act like a sponge and filter, and help prevent pollutants from getting into the lake.

Dock painting: Paint or stain docks away from the lake and allow at least 14 days of drying time before putting them in the water.

Check for erosion: Check the shoreline and other areas of the property for soil erosion. Stabilize these areas with plants or rock riprap.

Check your septic system's leachfield for any breakouts and consider having the tank pumped if it has not been pumped recently.

Boats: When preparing your boat for another season, make sure to dispose of drained lubricating oils at a recycling facility. Wash the boat away from the water or at a commercial car wash.

Cleaning products: When using cleaning agents, use natural products like baking soda and lemon juice when cleaning and save money while protecting your health and nature.

Paint color: When using paints and stains, consider using earth tone colors so that buildings and other structures will blend better with the natural shoreline.

Lake Smart 2020

If you've signed up for a 2020 Lake Smart survey, expect to receive a property owner's questionnaire soon via email to start the process.

And thank you for participating in this volunteer effort to protect the pond and your property's value.



Photo courtesy Sharon Oliver.



HONOR ROLL: FUND TO RESTORE GEORGES POND

The Georges Pond Association is grateful to the following GPA members and friends of Georges Pond who have made pledges and/or donated as of March 31, 2020.

Anonymous

Jerry Abel and Tim Leavitt Dwight and Lynn Alley

Garrett Alley

Timothy and Ann Calbi Alley

Sean Behan

Jim and Sharon Beyer
Joseph and Leona Bellai
William and Royce Bellatty
Chuck and Carol Blatherwick

Lucas Blatherwick
Rhonda Boynton
Stuart and Lisa Branch
Thomas and Julie Brenton
Leo and Susan Bunker
Jennifer and Scott Bunker
John and Callie Carr

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Claire Eliasberg and Andrew Moir

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Marvin Ellison and Frank Brooks

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Michael Faulkingham

Patricia Feezel

Michael and Michelle Fielding Adam and Katherine Fisher

Bruce Fisher

Charles (Dusty) and Ellen Fisher

Brian and Linda Friedmann

Rocco Fucetola

Stephen and Karen Garner Arthur and Carolyn Gilbert

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Michael and Cynthia Willhite

Barbara Wing Corinne Wong

Brendan Woo and Annie Lin

Greg and Sarah Woo

Joan H. Woo

Jeff and Jena Young

Leonard and Juanita Young

Memorial Gifts

Please let us know if your name is missing from this list.

The GPA gratefully acknowledges gifts recently received in memory of

RENEW YOUR GPA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020. SEND IN YOUR \$25 DUES TODAY!

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AN ANONYMOUS DONOR WILL MATCH
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EACH NEW LAKE SMART SIGNUP.



Aerial view of Georges Pond



Photo courtesy Callie Carr

Georges Pond Association

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