

# Don't miss the Torsey Pond Association Annual Meeting!

Join your neighbors in preserving our precious  
lake on July 10 at 10 a.m. at the Kents Hill School.

If you can't attend, please still send in your dues and proxy.

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## Invasive Species Update

The fight against invasive species continues at Torsey Pond. Thanks to volunteers, including the substantial efforts of Andy Zuroski, Torsey Pond continues the monitoring process with good results.

Unfortunately, we already have northern pike in our pond. These fish were introduced illegally and are a threat to native fish species, such as trout, and even baby loons. If you catch one, please don't put it back.

Andy e-mailed the following letter to board members just before Memorial Day Weekend.

*Bring on summer! Boat inspections will begin this weekend, and we will have coverage on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. The launch will have AmeriCorps interns provided by the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed and funded by donations made to the Torsey Pond Milfoil Program.*

*The plan this year is to have coverage every weekend through Labor Day and extended coverage during the July 4<sup>th</sup> week. The CBI program serves as the first line of defense and is supplemented by plant patrols.*

*Last year, AmeriCorps interns spent 19 hours surveying Torsey for invasive plants. This effort is a critical component to protecting Torsey. Should an invasive aquatic plant species make it into Torsey, early detection is essential for early containment. Fortunately, no non-native invasive plants were found.*

*Last year this service was funded by a grant; this year we will need to fund the program ourselves.*

*Volunteer boat inspectors will be needed again this year to provide the coverage necessary to protect the pond we love. The more volunteer inspectors we have the less money we have to raise and the more coverage we can provide. This program does not exist without your help. I look forward to working with you again this year.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*Best regards,*

*Andy Zuroski*



Sailboats skim across Torsey Pond. Photo courtesy of Fran Zambella.

Torsey Pond Association  
c/o Holly Rahmlow  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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(parentheses indicate year member's term ends )

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Dear Neighbor:

This fall, the Torsey Pond Association plans a major repair of the Holman Dam. The dam boards are twenty years old and need to be replaced. Elsewhere in this newsletter, there is a description by Fran Zambella and Mike Pastore of the planned repair. Fran and Mike have done much research on the best way to accomplish this repair, visited many dams, and consulted with experts.

The cost of the repair is going to be about \$10,000. At this moment, we have about \$9,200 in our treasury, and if we collect the usual amount of dues that we have collected in past years, we will have enough money to perform the work. However, we will then have almost no money left in the treasury in reserve for any unforeseen expenses.

***I am therefore asking you to make an extra contribution this year, if you can afford it, toward the repair of our dam.***

Instead of your usual dues payment of \$25, if you can contribute \$50, \$75, or even \$100 this year, please do so. There is a dues form elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please attend our annual meeting on Saturday, July 10, at 10 a.m. at the Kents Hill School.

Finally, please be aware that this year we will begin the fall drawdown of the water level about a week or two earlier than usual. The dam repair should be performed when the lake level is close to its minimum level, and it should also be performed before any ice forms on the lake. Therefore, to provide this necessary window of time, the lake level drawdown must begin earlier.

I was president of the TPA twenty years ago when we last repaired the dam, and I am proud that the association will once again repair the dam to protect our lake. I am mailing my check for \$100 to our treasurer today.

Sincerely,

Mark Dershwitz, President

## HOLMAN DAM RENOVATION PROJECT

Fran Zambella and Mike Pastore

### GOALS:

- To replace existing dam boards that have been leaking excessively and no longer efficiently hold back the water for our lake.
- To facilitate controlling the flow by making adjustments much easier for our volunteer dam keeper.

### DESIGN:

As shown in the drawing below, the new design consists of a one-piece, 3/4-inch-thick steel plate with two 24-by 36-inch cutouts, located 26 inches below the summer water level and fitted with sluice gates that are controlled with geared hand wheels. The height of the steel plate will correspond to the approximate summer water level. The sluice gates will allow any desired flow including winter drawdown and flood control.

### COST and LONGEVITY:

The entire cost for this project will be approximately \$10,000. (We received a quote to replace the existing boards with new boards at about the same cost). Replacing the boards with new boards would probably last only about twenty years. The steel design will serve Torsey beyond forty years.

### FUNDING:

Your annual dues and additional generous contributions.

