

Thank You to the residents and taxpayers of the town of Marlow.

Thank you very much for joining the effort to keep Sand Pond aquatic nuisance species free. By maintaining a strong defense against the introduction of non-native plants and animals into Sand Pond the property values around the pond are maintained and the waters remain attractive to visiting fishermen (and women and kids!) and increasingly to other recreational boaters. By investing a relatively small amount of money each year in the Lake Host Program of monitoring and education we hope to avoid the need to spend the huge amounts of money required to control an infestation of invasive plants or animals.

Contributions from the taxpayers of Marlow over the years have been instrumental in maintaining one of the strongest Lake Host programs in the state. It is proper to let the townspeople of Marlow know that the \$1000.00 they voted to contribute to the Sand Pond Lake Host Program this year is greatly appreciated and will be wisely used.

Funding for the 2013 Lake Host Program at Sand Pond comes from a very few sources: A grant administered by the NH Lakes Assoc; a contribution from the town of Marlow; a contribution from the town of Lempster Conservation Commission; a fee and additional contributions paid by the members of the Sand Pond Association; and an annual raffle run by the lake host group at Sand Pond.

Our spending is similarly simple; the membership fee to NH Lakes Association; expenses incidental to operations (postage, copies, t-shirts); and payroll for part time paid lake hosts to staff the boat launch. The contribution from Marlow goes entirely to payroll.

Recognizing that there are limited opportunities for employment in town, we make an effort to hire young people from Marlow and Lempster to fill our paid positions. This year we employed a young college student from Marlow for his third year at Sand Pond, a graduating senior from Claremont for his second year, and a seventeen year old from Lempster for her first season. Together these three young people will earn over \$5000.00 as paid Lake Hosts and perform an invaluable service in educating boaters and helping to keep Sand Pond invasive species free.

In addition to our paid part-time Lake Hosts our thirty or so volunteers from the property owners around the pond will contribute well over 500 hours of their time as unpaid Lake Hosts.

It is our goal to inspect every boat at the public boat ramp, to educate every boater about the risks posed by invasive plants and animals, and to teach every boater how to perform his own inspection and thus prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species.

Thank you again for your generous assistance to the Sand Pond Lake Host Program.

Sincerely,

Hal Goodnow
Sand Pond Association
Lake Host Point Person