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Water Quality Monitoring

September marked our last water quality monitoring event for the season. A giant hurray from the people who have dedicated much time to the collecting and testing the 2nd Saturday of each month since April. In these busy times, I think all of the people who helped out on this deserve a giant round of applause. Approximately 20 sites were monitored on a monthly basis with testing done in the areas of temperature, Ph, phosphates, nitrates and dissolved oxygen and will be tracked and entered into a statewide database. Look for this to pick up again in the spring.

319 Status

We have completed our first quarter of the 319 grant and progress reports have been prepared in cooperation with the ILWA and the DPW and submitted to DEP. We are meeting with DPW monthly and will be preparing second quarter numbers in October.

The design has been completed on the BMP's and will be going out to bid shortly. The dam repairs made by DPW and included as part of this project were completed in April 2003.

We are currently making preparations for an innovative plant replacement program in which native non-invasive low growing plants will be introduced to the lake to overtake the current infestation of the non-native Eurasian Milifoil. Over the winter months, we will be making plans to obtain the new plants and determining what the best method is to attack the current weeds before introducing the new ones. The lake needs to be virtually weed free before the new plants can be introduced so a combination of the winter drawdown and treatment of a small portion of the lake may be necessary before the next recreational season.

Due to all of our volunteers, we have already accumulated over \$35,000 worth of volunteer in-kind match!!!! Over \$20,000 of this was

from the cleanups and water quality monitoring.

Morgan Park Update

Bob Gates and Beth Proko, President and Vice President, respectively, of the ILWA recently met with Jack Sheppard and Pat Sheppard of the State Water Access Board, Captain Ashe of the Worcester Police Department and Parks Commissioner Michael O'Brien in regards to overcrowding and safety issues at Morgan Park.

There has been an increasing problem with overuse of this facility and we are trying to determine the best route to address the issues. The good news is that the city administration has assigned Captain Ashe to work with us on resolving the safety concerns. In these times of cutbacks in the police department, it has been difficult for the WPD to respond to all of the issues that have developed at this location. In the interim to a long term solution, route cars are passing through the park on a more regular basis and the ILWA is working in cooperation with the parks department and the WPD to get paid detail officers at the facility on weekends we know will be a problem such as Memorial Day, the 4th of July and Labor Day.

We get many suggestions on how to solve the problems here which are appreciated. Let me share just a few of the issues we are contending with. First, the boat ramp is owned by the state, therefore, maintenance can be jeopardized by limiting access to it (like charging a fee or closing it) without the State Water Access Board's approval. Secondly, as far as limiting access to jetskis or banning them entirely, there are many people who live on the lake who operate these vehicles appropriately and enjoy them. It would be shortsighted for these people to lose their privilege because others do not follow safe boating rules. And, even if we were to limit access to these watercraft, without proper enforcement, we end up in the same situation. We will keep you posted as the process continues but rest assured, we are working to address it before a tragic accident

Fall Cleanup

To Include:

- Storm Drain Stenciling
- Repair Boat Ramp at Morgan Park
- General Cleanup

**Saturday,
November 1st
9am - 12pm**

Please meet at Morgan Park.

In Memory of Ed Brank

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our board member and long time Indian Lake advocate, Ed Brank. Ed put up a valiant fight in his battle against the cancer. He took on several grants and projects in the last year and continued as a valuable resource to the ILWA as he felt well enough. Several months ago, Ed requested we type up and mail him minutes of the board meetings so that he could still keep up with the issues we were working on. Ed's caring and dedication to Indian Lake runs

through many years. Our hearts and deepest sympathy go out to his family in this most difficult time. He will be

2005 Calendar

We have long wanted to develop a calendar of Indian Lake. A committee is currently being formed to begin meeting in the early spring to begin searching for pictures—old and new—of the lake and surrounding area as well as working on the design, pricing, promotion and printing. If you would like to participate in this exciting project or have photos, please contact Paula Imbergamo at 508-853-5159.

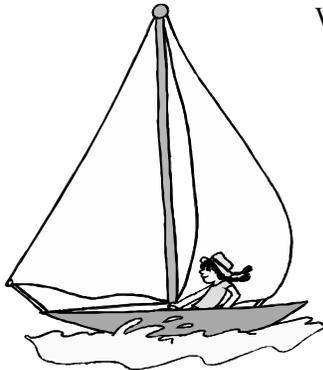
Please direct questions, comments or suggestions for this newsletter to: Beth Proko 508-856-9598 or bproko@charter.net

Next Meeting

The ILWA Board of Directors' next scheduled meeting is **Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30 pm** at Griggs & Brown, 549 Grove Street, Worcester. All members are welcome.

Membership

The ILWA membership drive last year was a huge success bringing us over 100 new members. Do you have a new neighbor? Please pass on this newsletter and encourage them to join!



Storm Drain Stenciling

5 North Pond Road

As part of the 319 grant, we will be looking to update the stenciling on many of the 1500 storm drains that drain into Indian Lake. Stencils that deter people from dumping into these drains, paint and supervision of this project is provided by the Worcester DPW. Our first stenciling day will be in conjunction with our November 1st fall cleanup. This project will continue with several dates in 2004. Large groups such as boy/girl scout and schools are also encouraged. Board member Isada Martignetti is coordinating this effort. Please contact her at 508-853-4749.

Please accept my application for membership in the Indian Lake Watershed Association, Inc.

_____ Senior or Student \$5

_____ Sustaining Member \$50

Number of Adults in Family _____

_____ Individual \$10

_____ Benefactor \$100

Number of Children in Family _____

_____ Family \$25

_____ Patron \$1000

Interested in Volunteering? _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (Optional): _____

Send to:

Beth Proko, Vice President
Indian Lake Watershed Association
2 Holden Street
Worcester, MA 01605

Membership Valid 1 Year From Date of Receipt