

Little Sunapee Protective Association Lake Host Program – 2022

In 2022, the Lake Host Program is providing coverage at the Little Sunapee boat launch site seven days a week, from 7AM to 5PM, except in stormy weather. We started coverage just before Memorial Day weekend, and expect to continue into September.

We are fortunate that three of our veteran paid lake hosts returned, and we added a one more paid lake host. They are Susan Pinson, Isaac Stearns, Uzma Malik and Pat O'Connor. If you see them at the boat ramp, be sure to say hello and thank them for their service to the Lake.

Once again, our volunteer lake hosts are providing coverage on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7AM to 11AM, and we have expanded their coverage by adding a Friday morning volunteer shift. Our volunteer lake hosts are Carol McGarry, Carol and Charlie Foss, Jack Sheehan, Duffy Sheehan, Sharon Sheehan, Don Holl, Laurie DiClerico, Peter Gunn, Jean Twombly, Peter Tourin, Amy Bucklin and John Schiffman. We are hoping to expand volunteer coverage in the late summer, when two of our paid Lake Hosts return to college.

We are very pleased to report that the Town of New London increased our Lake Host grant in 2022 by \$1,500, to \$7,000. We presented our request for increased funding jointly with the Pleasant Lake Protective Association, explaining that our hourly wage costs would be higher in 2022 (and they are). Our Select Board and Budget Committee were very supportive, despite the fact that they face other pressures on the Town budget.

In 2021, total paid lake host hours were 694.5, down from 864 hours in 2020 and 859.5 hours in 2019. This decline resulted from the many rainy days we had in 2021, compared to very few in 2020 and 2019. In addition, the thin staffing available by the last week of August reduced our coverage as compared to the two earlier years. Our volunteer lake hosts provided approximately 100 hours of lake hosting.

In 2021, our lake hosts performed a total of 1,068 inspections, as compared to 1,431 and 1,396 inspections in 2020 and 2019, respectively. There were no invasive species found in 2021; one had been found and removed from a boat in 2020.

Our total expenditure (as reported by NH Lakes) was \$7,531.93 in 2021, down from \$8,620.40 in 2020. (The expenditure numbers disregard funds remaining in the NH lakes account at year end, and exclude grant funding from NH Lakes. Our LSPA financial statement therefore show different amounts sent to NH Lakes for the lake host program in 2021.) The lower spend in 2021 was due to the lower number of hours of lake hosts, but our hourly rates were higher across the board.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven C. Root
Lake Host Program Coordinator
July 11, 2022