



April 2013

Dear Friend:

In the battle against invasive milfoil, we've made real progress on many fronts, including the work done last year in Great Meadow Stream and North Bay of Great Pond, the growing public awareness and support of the initiative to control the infestation and the tremendous response to the STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign.

We are now happy to report another very important step forward. The Belgrade Lakes Association has been awarded a \$150,000 matching gift grant to help carry on the fight. The grant matches gifts from past donors 1 to 1 and gifts from new donors 2 to 1. To qualify for the match, donations must be received by October 31, 2013.

The story of this matching gift grant is reported on the front page of the enclosed special STOP MILFOIL edition of the Belgrade Lakes Association newsletter. In its pages you will also find articles about our plans for this year, the use of chemicals to kill the milfoil and how we ultimately define success. We encourage you to read it from cover to cover to learn more about this very real threat to our lakes and community.

With the new season fast approaching we need and we are asking for your help so this work can continue. Please consider making a contribution to the STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign. One hundred percent of your tax-deductible gift will be used to fight the invasive milfoil infestation in Great Pond and keep it from overrunning the lake and spreading into Long Pond.

**And thanks to our matching gift grant, as a new donor, your gift will be tripled this year!** But remember, this is a matching grant, which means that we will not receive the first grant dollar until you make a donation.

Thank you very much for your support of this important work. With your help we can and we will win this battle. **Please GET ON BOARD and help up STOP MILFOIL.**

With great appreciation,

***Your STOP MILFOIL Task Force:***

*Charlie Baeder, Executive Director, Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance*

*Polly Beatie, Immediate Past President, Belgrade Lakes Association*

*Mel Croft, President, Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance*

*Pat Donahue, Belgrade Lakes Association*

*Adam Gardner, Belgrade Lakes Association*

*Mark Heuberger, STOP MILFOIL Task Force Co-Chair, Belgrade Lakes Association*

*Meghan Loubier, President, Belgrade Lakes Region Business Group*

*Maureen Maslak, Belgrade Lakes Association*

*Lynn Matson, STOP MILFOIL Task Force Co-Chair, Belgrade Lakes Association*

*Phil Mulville, Belgrade Lakes Association*

*Dr. Phillip Nyhus, Colby College*

*Toni Pied, Milfoil Program Coordinator, Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance*

*Dr. Bruce Rueger, Colby College*

*Maggie Shannon, Executive Director, Maine Congress of Lake Associations*

*Kathi Wall, Executive Director, Maine Lakes Resource Center*