



April 18, 2017

Dear Friend:

Re: 2017 STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign

The purpose of this mailer is to inform you about our 2017 STOP MILFOIL plans and ask for your continued financial support to fund this critically important work.

We are at our first real milestone in this effort. Last year was the 5th year of the STOP MILFOIL program. At this time, it's being called a success for the following reasons. The original infestation in Great Meadow Stream has been mostly removed. The spread of milfoil to other parts of Great Pond has been largely kept in check, and no invasive plants have been found in Long Pond.

However, this fight is far from over. There is still invasive milfoil growing in Great Meadow Stream intermixed with native vegetation. It will take continued vigilance to identify and remove the invasive plants so they don't grow back into a major infestation.

Invasive milfoil has also been found growing outside of the stream. For the last three years, we have been finding scattered plants growing in North Bay. They have been mapped and removed, but more plants will likely be found this coming season.

This past summer milfoil was also found growing in the south end of Great Pond. A single stem plant was identified and removed from Pinkham's Cove and another from Austin Bog (See enclosed map). These areas were repeatedly searched and no additional plants were discovered. However, these finds clearly demonstrate that invasive milfoil can grow almost anywhere around the lake.

2017 STOP MILFOIL Plans

In 2017, we will continue to remove plants from the original infestation in Great Meadow Stream, but the primary focus will be the search for new outbreaks in Great Pond and Long Pond. We will use divers during the day and the light boat at night. We will search the

complete shoreline of both lakes and repeatedly survey high-risk areas, like the boat ramps, shallow bays and stream outlets. It's imperative to find and remove new plants before they become well-established infestations.

Your Help Still Needed

Please consider making a donation to the 2017 STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign. Your generosity has helped us successfully battle this milfoil infestation the last 5 years. Your continued support will give us the funds we need to continue this fight in the future.

Please make your check payable to "BLA – STOP MILFOIL" and mail it in the enclosed envelope, or make a donation directly online at www.belgradelakesassociation.org.

Thank you very much for your support. Every dollar donated will go into a dedicated STOP MILFOIL bank account and be used only for fighting milfoil on Great Pond and Long Pond.

Without your support and this aggressive STOP MILFOIL campaign, invasive milfoil would have most likely already spread all over Great Pond and into Long Pond. We can't let that happen now.

Help us keep our lakes clean and free of this invasive threat. It's important for our lakes ... our community ... and the generations to come.

With great appreciation,



Lynn Matson, President