



Dear Belgrade Lakes Supporter,

March 18, 2020

There are many good reasons to be a member of the Belgrade Lakes Association. The first, and most important, is that the BLA is working every day to keep our lakes and surrounding land clean and beautiful for you and your family to use and enjoy. Since we are a volunteer organization, all your donated funds go to the programs the BLA leads or financially supports such as STOP MILFOIL, the Great Pond Survey, phosphorus remediation, LakeSmart, Courtesy Boat Inspectors, Youth Conservation Corps, Loon Conservation, land acquisition and trail maintenance. We are currently preparing for the Long Pond Survey to be conducted in early May.

The second good reason to belong to the BLA is to maintain your property value. If our lakes become overrun with milfoil or turn green with algae blooms, not only will our enjoyment be greatly diminished, but they will also be less attractive to vacationers and renters. Historical data suggests these types of events could cause our property values to drop by 15% to 30%. Again, the BLA is working to protect our lakes and lands so this never happens.

Every successful organization needs to grow. We need your help to fulfil our mission of "protecting and improving the watershed of Great Pond and Long Pond through preservation, education and action." We want to challenge you to not only renew your own membership but to help us expand our base. Your children and grandchildren are...**our future lake stewards!** Anyone who loves the lake needs to be involved with BLA-your lake neighbors, road association lake members, friends who visit, renters who come every year as well as your fishing and golfing buddies.

**We are continuing our Membership Challenge!**

Anyone who brings in 3 new memberships in 2020 will receive a BLA umbrella. These are not for sale and there is only one way to "earn" one. Just make sure your name is on their completed enrollment form and we will do the record keeping. And please don't forget to renew your own membership.

Spring is almost here. The ice will soon be out and it will be time to be on the lakes we enjoy so much. **Thank You** for your continued support. We are proud to be the oldest lake association in Maine and without **you** there would be no BLA.

Carol Johnson

Membership Co-Chairs

Gail Rizzo

