

# WEST POINT

A LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE COMMUNITY

## 2010 West Point Newsletter

Dear West Point of Long Island Association member,

Winter is slowly releasing its mighty grip on New Hampshire and we will soon be gazing upon an ice free Lake Winnepesaukee. To date, our snowfall has been minimal but many cold nights and strong biting winds have dominated our winter months. Hopefully the summer of 2010 will be drier and warmer than last summer.

As always your Board of Directors wishes to take this opportunity to advise you of several events scheduled for 2010. If you have any items of concern or suggestions you wish to share with us you are encouraged to please send them to our Secretary, Stephen Gentile.

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND BEACH CLEANUP

Our annual beach cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 29, 2010 at 10:00 AM. Our goal as always is to achieve 100% member participation. The 2 hours spent is worthwhile for the beach and a chance share your winter stories with friends. The rain date is Sunday May 30, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

### 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

Our 2010 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 7, 2010 at 10:00 AM, on the beach. Our By-laws provide for the nomination of members "in good standing" who desire to serve a three year term as a director of the association. If you wish to nominate a member who desires to serve, their name must be received by the secretary in writing by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Please send any nominations to our secretary, Stephen Gentile, 15 Ernie's Dr. Littleton, MA 01460.

### NH FISH & GAME DEPTMENT NOTICE

A West Point member found this notice on the NH Fish and Game website and we decided it was useful to share with you. Please see the enclosed notice regarding the feeding of deer.

### DOCKS & MOORINGS

Last fall "The Dock Master" Lou Whittemore and his crew repaired the main stringer on the docks. Hopefully we will not experience the uneven decking we had last season. All dock users are reminded to remove all dock lines, and bumpers from their assigned spaces at the season's conclusion. These items get caught in the ice and hinder the ice bubbler operation in the winter. The Dock user fee remains unchanged at \$300 per season. All dock assignees are asked to contact, Lou Whittemore if they plan to have any period of extended non-usage of the dock.

On several occasions last season we had some runaway boats from our mooring field. Luckily, there was no boat damage or injuries incurred. The contractor that installs and removes our moorings each season has been requested to carefully inspect and replace any worn equipment this spring. The mooring chains are the originals from many years ago. The "Mooring Master" Tony Gasbarro and the contractor have established a replacement schedule for this equipment. Each year the State of New Hampshire requires the Association to register our 10 moorings. Tony receives the bill each January. However in order to obtain the mooring stickers a current copy of the registration for the boat assigned to the mooring must be presented to the State of New Hampshire. Please send to Tony at 1145 Elm St. Leominster, MA 01453-3918 a copy of your 2010 boat registration. The Mooring user fee remains unchanged at \$150 per season. We shall make every effort to have our moorings installed by Memorial Day.

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## **BEACH, SHED, BOAT RACKS**

Our storage shed and boat racks are offered on a first come first serve basis. You are reminded that both the shed and the boat racks should have all of your personal equipment removed by Columbus Day weekend, additionally we ask that your boat rack material carry your name for identification purposes.

Last Spring, we worked the beach sand contour with some heavy equipment. It was our intention to stop the beach erosion caused by the heavy rain storms in the summer months and other times of the year. Our experience from last summer, fall and this winter indicates we may have solved the problem. This should preclude our having to hire a contractor to spread sand and rebuild our beach several times a season.

Our road ditches and culvert drainage system received some much needed attention last season. Several driveway culverts and road culverts were replaced and upgraded to the more durable plastic design. Hopefully we will not experience any road washout problems this season.

## **ANNUAL DUES**

Your Board of Directors has adopted a budget of \$32,950 for the fiscal year 2009-2010. This is approximately \$2000 less than our budgeted amount last fiscal year. As we experienced last year, we hope our final expenses will come in lower than our budgeted amounts. The maintenance of our roads (\$7,550.00 est.) and our trash collection (\$10,000est.) continue to be our biggest single expenditures.

We also have two members "not in good standing" with outstanding balances totaling more than \$6,200. It would be terrific if these individuals would pay their outstanding balances as receipt of those amounts could help offset any future dues increases.

We remain fiscally sound and confident that our expenses will be within our budgeted amounts. Therefore our annual dues will not be increased and will remain at \$400.

In summary, your Board of Directors wishes thank you for your continued support. We plan to see you on the beach for the cleanup May 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM, if not before then. The rain date for the cleanup is Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors  
The West Point of Long Island Association, Inc.  
[www.WPLINH.com](http://www.WPLINH.com)



## Feeding Deer Harms Their Health

**CONCORD, N.H.** -- Good Samaritans who think they're helping deer by putting out feed in the winter may actually be endangering the health of the herd, says New Hampshire Fish and Game Department wildlife biologist Kent Gustafson.

"People mean well, but don't realize the damage they're doing. Feeding wild white-tailed deer may actually reduce the animals' ability to survive a New England winter, making them more vulnerable to starvation, predation, disease and vehicle collisions," says Gustafson, who is the Deer Project Leader for Fish and Game. "Despite people's good intentions, supplemental feeding creates an artificial situation in which the deer, the habitat and the public may suffer."

The commercial availability of so-called "deer feed" does NOT make it OK to feed the deer, according to Gustafson. The Fish and Game Department urges landowners to NOT provide supplemental feed to deer, because the practice actually can cause far more harm than good.

"Many people think of feeding deer like feeding the birds," remarks Gustafson, "But there are some critical differences that make feeding deer unhealthy for the deer population, for plants near the feed site and for passing motorists."

Problems start because feed sites congregate deer into unnaturally high densities. These high deer densities can spread diseases among deer and attract predators, increasing the risk of death by coyotes or domestic dogs. It can cause aggression in the herd, wasting deer's vital energy reserves and leading to injury or death; as well as using up critical fat reserves as deer expend energy traveling to and from the feed site. Feeding can deny access to food for subordinate deer and fawns, and can encourage over-browsing of local vegetation and ornamental plants. It also increases the likelihood of deer-vehicle collisions.

One of the most serious drawbacks to feeding deer is that feed sites lure them away from their natural wintering areas. This attraction can trap deer in inferior winter habitat and increase the chance of malnutrition and predation. If deer continually go to feed sites instead of natural deer wintering areas, then young deer may never learn to find their traditional winter habitat. Also, landowners may not see the value of managing for dense softwood cover, typical natural winter habitat for deer.

Habitat is critical, because in winter conditions, deer conserve their energy, getting as much as 40 percent of their daily energy during winter from their fat tissue. That's why in winter, COVER -- not food -- is the key to deer survival. Deer retreat to softwood cover, or "deer yards," to avoid deep snow, high winds and extreme cold. In these areas, deer move around very little, using a network of trails that disperses them and reduces competition for natural food.

"Quality natural habitat provides the best insurance for deer survival in winter," says Gustafson. "If you care about deer, leave them alone -- let them be wild, and find natural foods and appropriate winter shelter on their own. The bottom line is, please don't feed the deer, and please discourage your neighbors, friends and relatives from engaging in this harmful activity."

[Click here to download "More Harm than Good," a brochure explaining the negative impact of deer feeding \(PDF file, 956 KB\).](#) Copies are also available at N.H. Fish and Game or UNH Cooperative Extension offices or from Extension's Forestry Information Center at 1-800-444-8978.