



# Sabbathday Lake Association

*New Gloucester, ME*

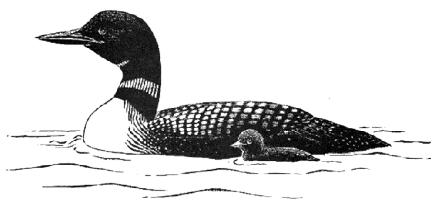
*April 2016*

## ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The Sabbathday Lake Association (SDLA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, environmentally oriented, charitable organization formed to protect the water quality and natural ecosystem of Sabbathday Lake and its watershed.

## PROGRAMS

- ❖ **CONSERVATION EDUCATION** – The SDLA supports our community with educational materials and other information including best practices in watershed conservation.
- ❖ **LAKE SMART** – The SDLA has partnered with the Maine Lakes Society to recognize and reward waterfront homeowners who use natural landscaping strategies to protect the health of our lake, wildlife habitat, water quality, recreational opportunities and community property values.
- ❖ **WATER QUALITY MONITORING** - The SDLA completes three rounds of water quality testing each year in July, August, and September. This annual study provides data on the long term trends in our lake's water quality. These data are entered into the Volunteer Lakes Monitoring Program (VLMP) database, which stores water quality testing data from all participating lakes in Maine. Funding for testing and reporting is shared by SDLA and the Town.
- ❖ **INVASIVE PLANT PATROL** - The SDLA has an active Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP) of 14 certified volunteers who survey the lake for milfoil and other invasive species. Their goal is to quickly identify any invasive species that may enter Sabbathday Lake and report those findings so mediation actions can occur.
- ❖ **COURTESY BOAT INSPECTIONS** - Each year SDLA receives a grant from Maine's Department of Environmental Protection to place courtesy boat inspectors at the Outlet Beach boat ramp, during weekends and holidays, in order to monitor boats coming into the lake that could bring in invasive species. Because milfoil and other invasives are increasingly showing up in surrounding lakes, this program is an important step in preventing invasive species from entering Sabbathday Lake.
- ❖ **VOLUNTEER TRAINING** - The SDLA funds and hosts annual training and certification sessions for its volunteers to support water quality survey processes and invasive species identification.



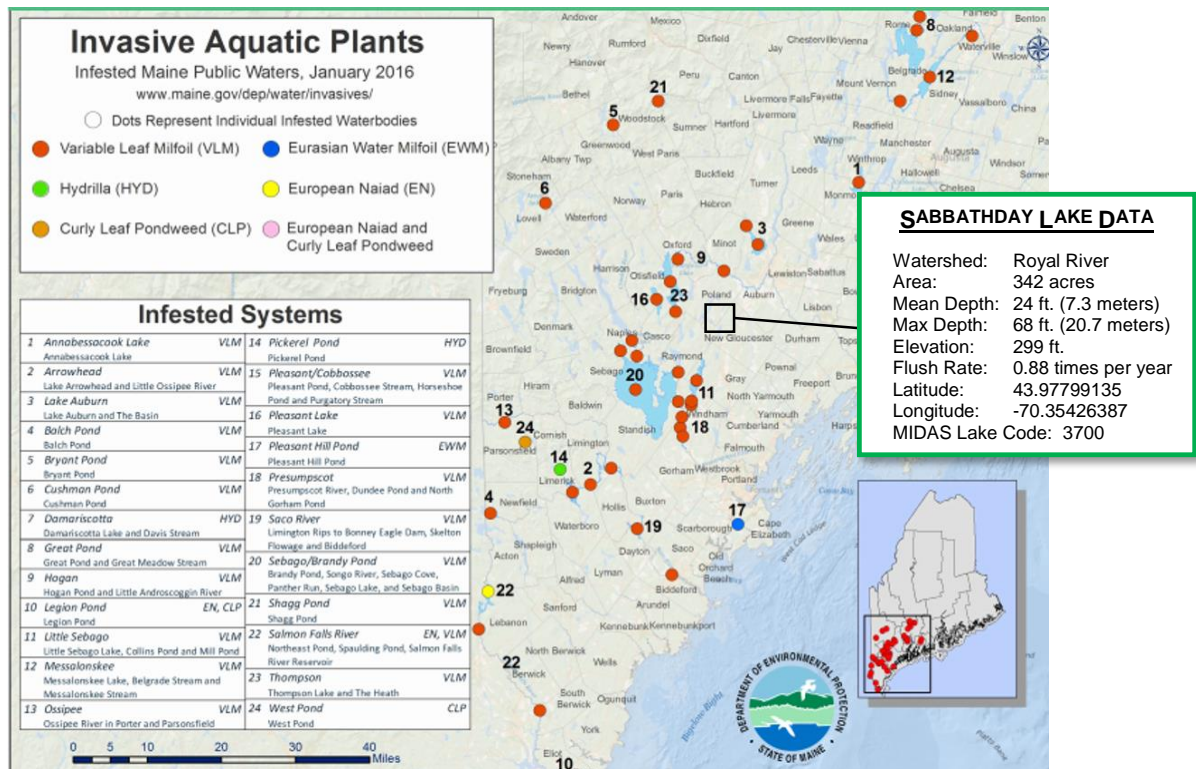
*Visit our website: [www.sabbathdaylakeassoc.org](http://www.sabbathdaylakeassoc.org)*

## POTENTIAL THREATS & LAKE ASSOCIATION WORK EFFORTS

### ❖ INVASIVE PLANTS & OTHER SPECIES

*How do we compare to other local lakes?* **NO INVASIVE SPECIES DETECTED!**

Through the work efforts of Courtesy Boat Inspections and IPP volunteers, SDLA actively surveys and monitors Sabbathday Lake. This activity helps our community avoid mediation efforts and clean-up costs associated with invasive species – thus protecting the community and its property values.



### ❖ WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION

*How do we compare to other local lakes?*

Water quality data for Sabbathday Lake have been collected since 1975. Based on measures of Secchi disk transparency (SDT), total phosphorus (TP), and chlorophyll-a (Chl-a), water quality has generally been considered above average since monitoring began (Lakes of Maine, 2015).

Although many of the water quality measurements for Sabbathday Lake have historically been better than the Maine average, Sabbathday Lake is still sensitive to pollutants in stormwater runoff stemming from the surrounding watershed. Significant amounts of stormwater runoff can temporarily reduce transparency, and if erosion in the watershed increases, the long-term reductions in transparency could become permanent.

*Source: 2015 Sabbathday Lake Water Quality Report, page 2.*

**SABBATHDAY LAKE ASSOCIATION:**  
**PROVIDING STEWARDSHIP FOR NEW GLOUCESTER'S NATURAL RESOURCE**

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