



## Lagoon Pond Second Quarter Update

Are you ready??!! Summer is almost here!

First: A few important dates:

**June 7:** Lagoon Pond Collaborative Meeting at the MV Museum from 10-11 a.m.

**June 10-11:** Boat Turn In Weekend. Bring no longer used boats-serviceable or not, to Medeiros Cove for re-sale or disposal. See details below.

**June 17:** Harborfest on Oak Bluffs Harbor~LPA will be there. Come down and see us from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

**July 15:** Annual Meeting at Sailing Camp. 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

**July 22:** Annual Lagoon Pond Cleanup and Light Up the Lagoon!! Stay tuned for further details.

**August 23:** Annual LPA Social at Doug Reece's house at the Head of the Pond 5-7 p.m.

How's that for activities? Here's what else we have going on:

**1. Lagoon Pond Collaborative:** As previously reported, the LPA and Safe Harbors Marina have set up a Collaborative of Lagoon Pond Stakeholders to meet and exchange information regarding projects and concerns on the Pond. We met in February with over 20 attendees, including Select Board members, Board of Health agents, marinas and other businesses, harbormasters, nonprofits, MVC personnel, oyster farmers, the Shellfish Group and others. It was a great start to collaborating on projects and needs for the Pond. Our next meeting is June 7 at the Museum. Attendees will each report on 2 ways they are helping the Pond and suggestions on how other members might be able to help them achieve their goals.

**2. Boat Turn In Weekend:** In early May, the OB Shellfish Constable and Harbormaster cleaned up a good deal of debris on the OB side of the Lagoon from the drawbridge to the Sailing Camp. In conjunction with that, we are asking our members to participate in a Boat Turn In Weekend to gather more debris and unused boats from the edges of the Pond where they can become hazards. Remember that canoe you have had sitting on your beach for 10 years? Or how about that skiff that washed up 3 years ago? Bring them down to Medeiros Cove between 9 and 11 a.m. on Saturday or Sunday, June 10-11. We will have a dumpster for unusable boats and will collect useable boats to sell at a boat sale in September. If you are unable to collect your boat and get it there, please contact us and we will help.

**3. Beach Road Construction:** Members of the LPA Board noticed that the erosion control barriers installed in conjunction with the Beach Rd. construction from the drawbridge to the corner of County and Eastville were completely breached and/or buried, thereby allowing runoff from the construction into the Lagoon and Brush Pond. We met with the DOT project manager and architects, the DOT environmental protection unit and the general contractor with our concerns, including the blockage of drains on the road in that area. As a direct result of our efforts, the contractor had the sediment control fixed in one week and the EPA division is working on freeing up the drain to the ocean that is blocked at this time, causing flooding in that area. Sadly, the DOT wasn't keen on getting rid of that "bump out" at the end of County! LOL (we tried).

**4. Goose Egg Addling:** Barbara Kopans was able to enlist the Animal Control Officers in Oak Bluffs and Tisbury to take over the addling of goose eggs on the Pond this spring.

The proliferation of Canadian Geese on the Pond could be harmful to water quality and their feces fouls our beaches. Thank you to the ACOs and Barbara for undertaking this endeavor!

**5. Summer Interns:** The LPA has hired two summer interns to work with the Oak Bluffs and Tisbury Shellfish Constables, as well as the MVC and the MV Shellfish Group. This year, they will also be participating in developing our LPA Repository which should correspond nicely with their hands-on work on the Pond.

**6. Earth day at MV Museum:** The Vineyard Conservation Society sponsored an environmental nonprofit get together after the beach cleanups on Earthday. It was an amazing event showcasing so many water related entities and Lani Goldthorpe and Becky Rivera supported our table at the event.

**7. Committee Highlights:** Our committees have been meeting monthly. Highlights are as follows:

Membership/Outreach Committee~ Our website has been updated and continues to be refreshed. We are working on our social media presence. Our member list has been

updated and is current and outreach for new members is ongoing. Don't forget to pay your dues and thank you for all who have!

*Science Committee*~ The LPA repository containing all scientific data relating to the Pond continues to take shape. This repository will help us collect data that will show trends on the Pond. Becky Rivera and David Reed have produced a nitrogen impact fact sheet that was available at Earthday and will be available at Harborfest and at the Annual Meeting. It is a really good tool to aide in the understanding of what is happening on the Pond. We are also designing a Biodiversity Program for the Pond. Stay tuned for opportunities to participate in that!

*Fundraising Committee*~ We were unfortunately not successful in obtaining funds for a "Sonde" device which would allow us to monitor the water quality in the Pond on a real time basis. We continue to look for financing opportunities to fund this important endeavor. We did however, receive two very generous donations recently, one from the Katherine Goodman Foundation and one from an anonymous donor. This funding will enable us to fund our existing programs and institute others and we thank these and all of our donors and members for their financial help.

*Strategic Planning Committee*~ We have a great brochure! Thank you Amy Russo, Maddie Henson and others for helping with this. It will be so much more effective to showcase our mission. Amy Russo also put together a slide for the MV Film Center which will periodically be shown prior to the start of movies this summer. Look for it! The kiosk for the Tisbury boat landing with a map of the Lagoon is awaiting installation by the Town of Tisbury and we have obtained a plaque for the porta-potty there which indicates it is sponsored by the LPA and the Edey Foundation. We continue to educate our members and the public on the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plans, Permeable Reactive Barriers and Innovative and Alternative Septic Systems being reviewed by the Towns. Members are also participating in the Boat Turn In Weekend, Harborfest and planning the Lagoon Cleanup and Light Up the Lagoon!

Woah, I'm pooped writing that up! Remember this summer, fertilizer is not your friend (brown grass is OK) and being kind on the water is paramount. Be aware of your neighbors when "making waves" and respectful of this beautiful environment!

Thank you for loving Lagoon Pond as much as we do.

See You on the Water!

*Sherry Countryman, President*

**Lagoon Pond Association ([www.lagoonpondassoc.org](http://www.lagoonpondassoc.org))**

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