

## 2019 Lake Host Program Report

*Information from NH Lakes:*

*During summer 2019, Lake Hosts staffed 104 of the most highly-used boat access sites throughout New Hampshire and conducted over 90,000 courtesy boat inspections. Our team removed 14 hitchhiking aquatic invasive plants and animals from boats, trailers, and gear, preventing them from entering our lakes.*

In 2019, Canaan Lake Association has been part of this effort and was awarded \$1,800 in grant money by NH Lakes. Our wonderful volunteers contributed 125.5 volunteer hours last year, which NH Lakes valued at over \$3,000. We obtained a 325% match between our grant award and what we spent on the Lake Host program (i.e. paid host costs + volunteer cash equivalent for time). This gave the Lake Host Program additional \$300 in grant funds this year in 2020.

Three paid hosts worked 283 hours at the ramp last year on Saturdays and Sunday with a break for lunch that was staffed by volunteers.

This year we have 4 high school and college age paid hosts. Two are Canaan Lake residents: Kyle Wilson and Tatum Schmidt. The other two live in Canaan (Kerrigan Stone) and Grafton (Mavin Parrish).

In 2019, paid and volunteer hosts inspected 440 non-motorized boats and 104 boats with motors. 93% of the boats were from New Hampshire with a few boats from surrounding states.

It is worthy to note, however, that nearby water bodies contain milfoil: Mascoma Lake, Connecticut River, Lake Sunapee, Lake Fairlee, Lake Morey, Post Pond, Pinneo Lake. We are surrounded!!!! It is vital to inspect boats and prevent even a quarter of an inch of a milfoil from being transported to our lake.

The majority of outbreaks are at boat ramp sites and the most effective way to prevent invasives from contaminating a lake is the Lake Host program. Since its inception in 2002, NH Lake Host program inspections have removed 1,598 invasive plants and species from boats in the State of NH.

We thank our valued volunteers and paid Lake Hosts. If you'd like to be part of the team contact Elizabeth Jutila by cell phone 704 664 0526

Co Coordinators of the Lake Host Program: Ann Berry and Elizabeth Jutila