



**Sebec Lake Association**  
**PO Box 303**  
**Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426**



## Sebec Lake Association Newsletter

***Spring / Summer 2010***

Sponsored by:



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### **Annual Meeting**

- *July 14, 2010 6pm*
- *Mayo Regional Hospital, Piscataquis Room*
- *[www.sebeclakeassoc.com](http://www.sebeclakeassoc.com)*



## Sebec Lake Association President's Message

Welcome to Sebec Lake and the Sebec Lake Association. The Sebec Lake Association is a large group of Sebec Lake property owners and other people interested in preserving and maintaining the health of one of the most beautiful lakes in Maine. Our officers and board of directors strive to keep you informed on upcoming events and lake monitoring, as well as answer questions concerning the lake and surrounding communities. We have a newly remodeled website. Please visit us at [www.sebeclakeassoc.com](http://www.sebeclakeassoc.com). A list of SLA officers and board of directors, with email addresses, is on the website. Feel free to contact any of us.

You are welcome to attend our SLA annual meeting, to be held July 14<sup>th</sup>, at Mayo Regional Hospital Piscataquis room at 6:00 P.M.

Don't miss the Dover-Foxcroft Homecoming Fireworks at Sebec Lake August 7<sup>th</sup>. The display will be launched from a float between the public beach, on Cotton Brook Road, and the Narrows. The Sebec Lake Association is one of the proud sponsors. Ask anyone who observed last years display and you won't want to miss this event.

We look forward to seeing you at Sebec Lake, the annual meeting and the Dover-Foxcroft Homecoming Fireworks. Have a wonderful summer, enjoy your time at Sebec Lake and please help us protect this wonderful asset and resource.

Best wishes,

Brian Woodworth

Sebec Lake Association - President

P.S. Thanks to Bob & Janet Hall for all you do!

Thanks to Carl Brackett for all your time & expertise in producing the SLA Newsletter & Duesletter.



### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES PAYMENT

Dues are due on JULY 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Please complete the following form to the best of your knowledge. We are attempting to upgrade our mailing list to better serve our members and lake property owners. Thanks.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Map #: \_\_\_\_\_ Lot #: \_\_\_\_\_ (this can be found on your tax bill)

New Member or Renewal (please circle)

Dues are Currently \$15.00 Yearly

Mail Checks For Dues To:

**Sebec Lake Association Treasurer**

**PO Box 303**

**Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426**

**You may also go online to [www.sebeclakeassoc.com](http://www.sebeclakeassoc.com) to join or pay dues.**

**If you have had a change of address, please go to our web-site and fill out the Change Of Address form. For those who do not have access to the web, you can go to your local library or mail your new address to the address above.**

**Sebec Lake Association Website**[www.sebeclakeassoc.com](http://www.sebeclakeassoc.com)**Sebec Lake Association Annual Meeting**

Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Mayo Regional Hospital – Piscataquis Room

**Sebec Lake Association Officers & Directors**

President – Brian Woodworth

[president@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:president@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Cell: 207-217-0962

Vice President – Don Baldwin

[vp@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:vp@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Treasurer – Jennifer Stewart

[treasurer@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:treasurer@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Recording Secretary – Janet Hall

[secretary@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:secretary@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Newsletters &amp; Data Manager

Corresponding Secretary – Tom Lizotte

[correspondingsecretary@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:correspondingsecretary@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Director – Gary Soucy

[director1@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director1@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Website Manager

Director – Bob Hall

[director2@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director2@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Water Level &amp; Quality Monitor

[director3@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director3@sebeclakeassoc.com)[director4@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director4@sebeclakeassoc.com)[director5@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director5@sebeclakeassoc.com)[director6@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director6@sebeclakeassoc.com)[director7@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director7@sebeclakeassoc.com)[director8@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director8@sebeclakeassoc.com)[director9@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director9@sebeclakeassoc.com)[director10@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:director10@sebeclakeassoc.com)

Ampersand (dam) &amp; DEP Liaison

**Emergency Numbers**

Mayo Regional Hospital..... 207-564-8401

Dover-Foxcroft Police.....207-564-8021

Ambulance Service..... 207-564-8401

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## Sebec Lake Watershed

### What is a watershed?

A watershed is defined as an area where all the water (including rainfall, snowmelt and ground water) drain to a common place. It is important to consider the 'connectivity' of a watershed because all uses that occur within it can impact all waters downstream. For example, poor land use practices on a small tributary stream may have a small, short term impact on that stream but the cumulative impacts over time or from the combination of multiple events in the watershed, can cause a degradation in all downstream waters. This includes loss of spawning habitat of coldwater species (excessive siltation) and algae blooms (from chemicals such as phosphates and nitrogen contained in fertilizer). This is why there are standards for common land uses such as house/lawn development and forestry harvesting, especially when they lie within a short distance from a water source. Vegetated buffers around streams, lakes, rivers and ponds help keep our watershed healthy. They slow runoff, filter pollutants and sedimentation and their root systems stabilize banks and prevent erosion. Wooded areas provide transitional wildlife habitat and shades brooks and streams which keeps them cool in summer months. (Edited from Natural Resource Education Center Newsletter, Summer 2010.)


### Our watershed


The direct watershed area for Sebec Lake is 160 square miles (about 20 rivers and streams), with the indirect watershed being 327 square miles. Primary inflow is from Wilson Stream, Ship Pond Stream, Cotton Brook, Bear Brook, Mill Brook, and Grapevine Stream. The only outlet is the Sebec River; outflow is controlled by the dam which can be used to generate hydroelectric power. Heavy or frequent rain and snowmelt impact lake level. Increased logging, building and clearing in the watershed in recent years have depleted the vegetation allowing runoff to get to the lake in larger quantities and more quickly.

### Lake levels


During the summer months, the goal level is 322.8 feet above sea level. Dam operators work hard to keep this level, but heavy rain can cause more inflow than the dam can release, even when gates are open. Removing the flash boards installed to keep the lake at 322.8' would allow more water to leave the lake faster, BUT the lake would then have to be drained BELOW the dam spillway to reinstall the flash boards. The lake must be drawn down by March 31 to a level of 317.8' to help reduce spring flooding.




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**Piscataquis Chamber of Commerce**  
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June 26th

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Downtown

Dover-Foxcroft



David Mallett  
in Concert 7pm

## Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program

Renee Rawinski and Bob Hall are our VLMP trained water quality monitors. Renee monitors clarity in 'the big lake' and Bob monitors clarity northeast of Greeley's Landing, collects lake level readings and samples for water testing for chemicals.

Renee attended the North American Lake Management Society meeting in October 2009 in Hartford CT ([www.nalms.org](http://www.nalms.org)). NALMS' mission is to forge partnerships among citizens, scientists, and professionals to foster the management and protection of lakes and reservoirs. At that meeting, Scott Williams, Executive Director of the MVLMP spoke about the organization, founded in 1971: It is the longest running volunteer monitoring program in the northeast and has the most volunteers. Last season, MVLMP trained its largest group of 52 new volunteers. All of the volunteers help monitor 432 lakes in Maine. These volunteers take regular Secchi disk (water clarity) readings, phosphorous samples, monitor dissolved oxygen levels and keep a watchful eye for invasive plant and animal species entering and taking hold in their lakes. The training programs are free and MVLMP relies on donations from individuals and lake associations for support. Sebec Lake Association relies on VLMP services and has sent a donation almost every year. Check out the MVLMP website at [www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org](http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org).

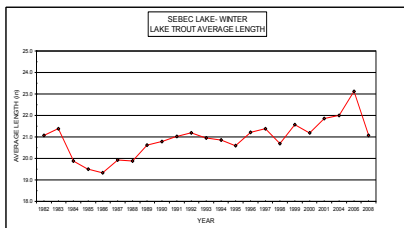
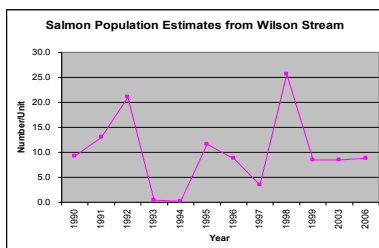




Sebec Lake is truly one of Maine's most outstanding lakes. It is one of the four original homes to Maine's native landlocked salmon. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife also maintains a robust lake trout population in the lake through an annual stocking program. Smallmouth bass and white perch provide fast fishing during the summer months when the coldwater game fish head for deeper waters.

We monitor the fishery at Sebec Lake using a number of techniques. In the winter, we frequently check the catch of ice fishermen to determine catch rates and monitor growth rates of lake trout. In 2006, we documented a decline in growth and increase in the catch of short lake trout, therefore, we have temporarily reduced the stocking rate until growth improves.

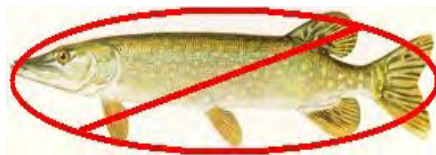
We periodically electro fish several Sebec Lake tributaries to monitor wild landlocked salmon reproduction. Salmon from Sebec Lake head



upstream into Wilson, Monson, Davis, and Ship Pond Streams in September to spawn. The young salmon hatch in early spring and spend two years in these tributaries. In the early 1990's we documented critically low numbers of young salmon in the streams. We determined that adult salmon were not able to pass Earley's Falls when the lake was low and the flow was high.

Therefore, changes in water management were made both upstream at the Wilson Pond hydro station and downstream on the outlet of Sebec Lake. Since these changes went into effect, we have seen very good numbers of young salmon in Wilson Stream.

Perhaps the biggest threat to the fishery of Sebec Lake is not overharvest or poor water quality, but invasive species. I'm sure most of you have read about the dangers of invasive plants and many camp owners associations help to educate the public. But invasive fish are an even more serious threat, especially to Sebec Lake. In this neck of the woods, we have seen our fair share of illegal introductions of bass. And now, we are seeing northern pike making their way north in Maine. Pike were a significant factor in the demise of one of Maine's finest landlocked salmon fisheries in Long Pond in the Belgrades. They continue to spread throughout that drainage via natural movements and through illegal introductions. They have also recently been discovered in Sebago Lake and will likely impact the salmon population in Maine's second largest lake. In the late 1990's, someone illegally introduced pike into Pushaw Lake in Bangor. The outlet of Pushaw Lake flows into the Penobscot River. The Penobscot River Restoration Project will soon remove many of the dams on the Penobscot River and create fish passage at the dam in Howland at the mouth of the Piscataquis River. Therefore, northern pike will soon have uninhibited access to the Piscataquis River at least as far north as the lower dam in Dover-Foxcroft. In the future, pike will be just a few miles from Sebec Lake. The outlet of Sebec Lake flows into the Piscataquis River in Milo. The dam on the Sebec River in Milo and the dam at Sebec Lake currently have no fish passage. These dams are the last line of defense against pike freely swimming into the lake. Camp owners and anglers should be aware of the threat and focus on educating the public about the catastrophic results of invasive fish in our lakes.



Tim Obrey, Regional Fisheries Biologist



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Set aside an afternoon to browse this unique collection of Sebec Lake History  
 Open Thurs., Friday, & Saturdays 1:00 pm to 5:00pm during the summer months

## Sebec Lake Association Website

Check our new and improved website at [www.sebeclakeassoc.com](http://www.sebeclakeassoc.com) for announcements, photos, blog, water issues and data, newsletters and history of Sebec Lake. Note that all information is currently visible to all, but will eventually some will be limited to members. Pay your dues via PayPal and update your member information with our Update Member Info on-line form under Contact Us to make sure you continue to have access to the entire site or use the form in this newsletter.

## Annual Meeting July 14, 2010

The Sebec Lake Association annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at the Mayo Hospital in the Piscataquis room at 6 p.m. Entrance and parking is at the rear of the hospital. We will have a Q&A about the Sebec Dam with the local monitors, Gary McPheters and Dave Sharrow. Tim O'Brey of Maine's Inland Fisheries & Wildlife department will give a presentation and entertain questions. Please put this date on your summer calendar and join us!

## Fireworks on the Lake

The Dover-Foxcroft Homecoming Committee has scheduled the annual fireworks display on Sebec Lake for Saturday, August 7, 2010. Sebec Lake Association is proud to be a sponsor of this exciting event.

The Homecoming Committee relies on donations from individuals and sponsors to fund the entire weekend. If you are looking forward to the fireworks, which cost over \$20,000 to present, please consider sending a donation to the Homecoming Committee by writing a check to: 'Dover-Foxcroft Homecoming' and send to Barbara Moore, Town Clerk/Town Treasurer at Town of Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. You may designate 'Fireworks' in the legend if you wish. Your donation will be greatly appreciated!

**Add your listing to Sebec Lake area businesses on our website** List your local business on our website for \$50 per year, giving your business 24/7 visibility. Fill out the Get Listed form under Local Businesses. Please remit payment to SLA Business Listing, PO Box 303, Dover-Foxcroft ME 04426-0303.

Newsletter ads are \$35 for business card, \$50 for 1/2 page and \$75 for full page. Please contact Brian Woodworth via email at [president@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:president@sebeclakeassoc.com) to be included in our next newsletter.

## Our Mailing List

There are almost 1000 people on our mailing list, including current and former property owners. If we have outdated information, or if you no longer wish to receive our mailings, please contact us via email at [secretary@sebeclakeassoc.com](mailto:secretary@sebeclakeassoc.com).





## TOWN OF DOVER-FOXCROFT SHIRETOWN HOMECOMING

August 7, 2010



Happy Spring 2010!

*HOP BACK TO THE FIFTIES*

Now that the year 2010 is here, Spring is officially here, our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Junktique Sale and our wildly popular Maple Sunday Breakfast are over, it is now the time to think about, plan, organize and look forward to our 2010 Shiretown Homecoming Celebration.

As always, your Shiretown Homecoming Committee has been meeting and working on plans, projects and fundraisers. The new theme for our parade and other activities for the 2010 Shiretown Homecoming Celebration has been established so things are off and running. The Shiretown Homecoming Celebration will be Friday August 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**This year our theme will be "Hop Back to the Fifties".** And we have just learned that the Bangor Band, 195<sup>th</sup> Maine Army Band and the Maine St. Andrew's Pipes & Drums will be joining our parade this year! Our street festival will take on a new look as well this year, as we welcome DJ Steve Pratt, The Music Maker to our Downtown Street Festival. The spectacular fireworks will once again be held out on Sebec Lake to end the evening, so start making your plans to join us at the public beach for food and entertainment before the show! We hope to have a lot more surprises in store for you as well!

Now in order to get our parade properly and efficiently organized early, it is my hope that this letter will serve your formal invitation to participate again or for the first time in Dover-Foxcroft's Shiretown Homecoming Parade kicking off at 10am sharp on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010! The parade will once again kick off from the Piscataquis Valley Fairgrounds on Fairview Avenue, enter on Summer Street and continue to East Main Street, where it will wind back to the Fairgrounds to end. This route drew many compliments last year from those participating and watching, not to mention that it's ½ mile shorter than the previous route!

Application forms are available on the town website for plans and any special needs for participating in our parade. If you have any questions, need more information or another application to pass on to your friends or neighbors, please contact me at the address or telephone number listed below.

Please note, additional information concerning staging areas and parade do's and don'ts will be mailed to you 2 weeks before the Shiretown Homecoming Celebration.

Thanks in advance for you being a part of our Shiretown Homecoming Celebration August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Sincerely, Sheila Bragg Shiretown Homecoming Committee

48 Morton Avenue, Suite A Dover Foxcroft, ME 04426 (207)564-3318 x 21  
[www.dover-foxcroft.org](http://www.dover-foxcroft.org) [sbragg@dover-foxcroft.org](mailto:sbragg@dover-foxcroft.org)



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ON SEBEC LAKE—AUGUST 7, 2010—9:30 'ish!!!



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Dover-Foxcroft, ME. 04426

For more information:

(207)564-3318 X12 or

[bmoore@dover-foxcroft.org](mailto:bmoore@dover-foxcroft.org)

THANK YOU TO SEBEC LAKE ASSOCIATION, CENTRAL MAINE PYROTECHNICS AND  
ALL OF THE SEBEC LAKE CAMPOWNERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

A big huge thank you to all the Sebec Lake camp owners who so generously stepped up to the plate and made it possible for us to have the first awesome fireworks display on Sebec Lake in decades! Without your generosity, these fireworks would not have been possible, and the reviews have been tremendously positive.

It was reported that your camps were full to brimming over with visitors for the 2009 Shiretown Homecoming weekend; Sebec Lake was full of boats, and the hundreds of red and green lights sparkling on the water added a dimension to our show that was absolutely breathtaking. Horns tooting, clapping, and the oohs and aahs after the fabulous grand finale added the finishing touch to an exciting evening.

We are so excited to report that due to the success of the 2009 fireworks display, we have big plans in place for 2010. Steve Marson of Central Maine Pyrotechnics has once again pledged \$3000 towards this year's display, and we have been fundraising furiously. Mr. Marson already has plans for a new and even better show for 2010 with some special surprises; and, we have great anticipation that we can provide this once again for all of you, our residents, and the many visitors who come each summer for our celebration. Save this date for this year's spectacular display--- August 7, 2010!

Once again, thank you so much to the Sebec Lake camp owners for your tremendous support in 2009!

Barbara J Moore, Treasurer

Town of Dover-Foxcroft Shiretown Homecoming Celebration