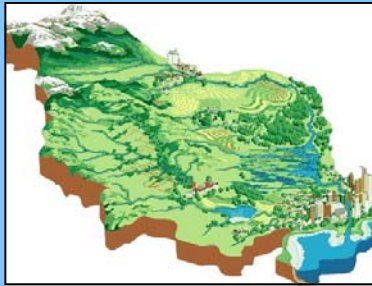


LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

February 2010

wa•ter•shed [waw-ter-shed]

The area of land where all of the water that drains off goes into the same stream, lake or other water body. A watershed can cross county and state lines. We all live in a watershed!



Source: Clemson University

Phase I Partners:

- * Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association (LWWA)
- * Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC)
- * North Country Resource Conservation & Development Area Council (NCRCD)
- * University of New Hampshire (UNH)
- * Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD)
- * Plymouth State University (PSU)
- * Department of Environmental Services (DES)
- * City of Laconia
- * Town of Meredith
- * Town of Gilford



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Our Vision

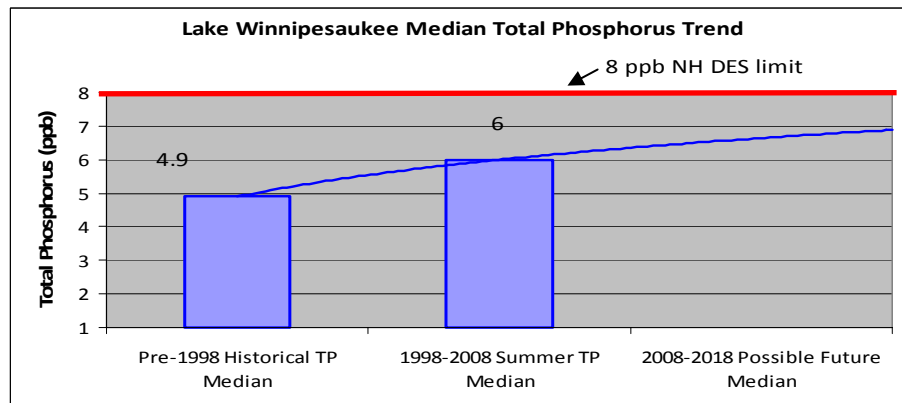
Lake Winnepesaukee is a national and international scenic resource renowned for its remarkable setting, outstanding water clarity, and economic vitality within New England. Protecting Lake Winnepesaukee requires well-managed watersheds that include native forests and abundant wildlife, with an active and informed community of residents and visitors acting as stewards for the lake. In the future, communities and facilities will harmonize with the natural environment and provide a sustainable, vital economy for visitors and residents.

The Challenge

Lake Winnepesaukee is the largest lake in New Hampshire and the third largest in New England. It is a significant asset for state tourism, and the primary economic force of the region; however, the watershed lacks a comprehensive management plan to protect the environmental quality and scenic beauty.

The Winnepesaukee Watershed needs a strong, coordinated, and effective organizational voice committed to advocacy, outreach, and education. The need has never been greater or timelier.

Winnepesaukee River Watershed



Phosphorus data analysis is from 25 years of water quality monitoring from UNH and other sources. The data are for the entire Lake Winnepesaukee. Analysis indicates that individual bays may have higher levels of phosphorus.

Current funding is provided in part through the NH Department of Environmental Services with funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, with additional support from the LRPC.

Meredith, Paugus, and Sanders Bays

Approach

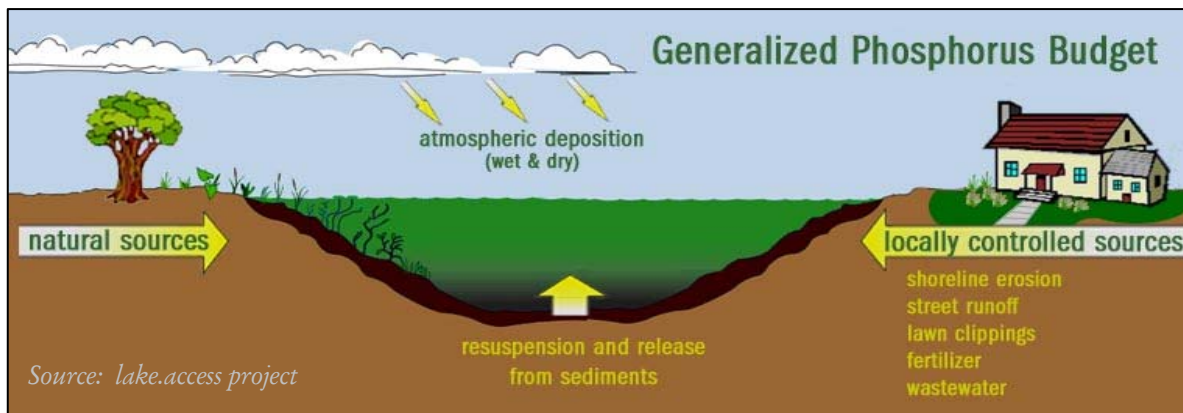
The partners have forged a unique, subwatershed approach to create an effective, sustainable planning and implementation process. Since this is a large, diverse watershed with many stakeholders, the project will build upon the existing foundation in Meredith, Laco-
nia and Gilford to develop bay-specific recommendations as we move around the watershed. We are committed to developing the comprehensive plan through an open and involved public process.

Action Groups formed:

- ◆ Planners Group
- ◆ Water Quality Committee
- ◆ Stakeholders' Focus Group
- ◆ Education Committee
- ◆ Fund-raising Committee

An Update

Water quality analysis for phosphorus (an indicator of lake water quality) has been completed on four subwatersheds: Waukegan, Meredith Bay, Paugus Bay, and Sanders Bay. Preliminary results from predictive phosphorus models have also been used to determine what future levels may be under exist-
ing land uses. Several presentations have been made to raise awareness of the project and foster partici-
pation. Area residents and officials are participating with project partners to share ideas, provide local insight and drive the watershed management process forward.



Projects Underway

ADOPT WINNI!
Be a Baywatcher



Proposed Website design begun:

- ◆ Environmental Plans
- ◆ Water Quality Data
- ◆ Interactive Maps
- ◆ Real-time Information
- ◆ Recreational Opportunities
- ◆ Fishing/Boating Recommendations
- ◆ Land Use & Zoning

We need your help!

To learn more about the Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Plan contact us at:

www.lakesrpc.org/lwwmp