

FRIENDS OF MOODY POND

PO Box 1127, Saranac Lake, NY 12983

May 2021

Dear Moody Pond Neighbors,

The spring thaw has finally sprung on Moody Pond. It's a time of renewal. The ice is gone and mallard ducks and a young beaver are among the first to arrive. Soon, the frogs will begin their chorus, trilliums will bloom, and the menagerie of wildlife that's spent the winter in hibernation will appear. From the shoreline, the pond appears to be the pristine waterbody it's always been; there's no sign of the Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) that threatens its entire ecosystem; but if we look below the sparkling surface, beneath the decaying dieback at the bottom, we'll see its root crowns lying in wait. Once the water temperature approaches 60°, shoots will emerge from the root crowns, growing as fast as an inch a day and upward as much as 20 feet or more, branching repeatedly to form a dense canopy at the surface. This Aquatic Invasive Species depletes oxygen, blocks sunlight, and kills off native aquatic plants and animals. For this reason, the *Friends of Moody Pond* organization was formed. We are decidedly not a shore owners association but a community nonprofit, and we're looking for people to help us **'Save the Pond'**. Volunteer support is key to restoring and maintaining Moody Pond for our children and future generations to enjoy. Please, read on to find out what we've been up to and how you can **'Give Back by Getting Involved'**.



- To get the word out into the community, we've built an informational website, and maintained a social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. If you have an account, you can help our cause by following us and sharing our posts.
- We're currently planning our second annual fundraising event, *'Foil The Milfoil: The Moody Pond Challenge'* to take place in July and August. Proceeds from *The Moody Pond Challenge* will be used to benefit the pond directly. Thanks to more than 400 individuals and local business owners who participated last year, we raised over \$22,000. Do you have a business connection that would be willing to donate an auction item? Are you interested in dishing up ice cream or helping with our fundraiser in some other way?
- We're proud to tell you that **over 87% of donor giving goes directly toward the expense of removing the Eurasian watermilfoil from Moody Pond**. At a cost of \$7,500 per week, we've hired *Invasive Solutions Dive Company* to begin hand-harvesting and removing the EWM beginning in June, 2021. We anticipate that it will take several years, with 2-3 weeks of hand-harvesting each year, to get the EWM under control in Moody Pond. We hope you'll consider participating in *The Challenge* this year, and also gather your friends and family to join you or sponsor you!
- We continue to apply for grants. Do you have a flair for grant writing? We could use your skills.
- You can also help promote our cause and our upcoming fundraiser, by displaying the enclosed removable sticker on your car, canoe, or another visible and environmentally appropriate location. These were generously donated to us through *4imprint's one by one design* promotional products grant.

Friends of Moody Pond is currently made up of 22 members that are shore owners or nearby residents. We're hoping to increase our membership to include more of our neighbors in 2021. Please consider joining us. Membership dues are only **\$25 per supporting member household, and \$50 per voting member household**, and cover our administrative costs. You can establish your membership with Friends of Moody Pond through June 2022 by clicking the **"Donate"** button located on our website: www.friendsofmoodypond.org, or by check, payable to **'Saranac Lake Rotary Foundation'**. Kindly reference **FMP in the payee line** or elsewhere on the check, then return your tax-deductible donation in the enclosed reply envelope to: **Friends of Moody Pond, PO Box 1127, Saranac Lake, NY 12983** via USPS.

Hope to see you around the pond!

Heidi Kretser, President Jay Federman, Vice President Tristan Glanville, Treasurer Susan Rdzanek, Secretary

P. S. We welcome you to join us at our next virtual 'Zoom' meeting, held the second Tuesday of the month, at 7:00pm. To be included on our contact list, send an email to friendsofmoodypond@gmail.com, subject "FMP Contact".