



Lake Waramaug Task Force, Inc.

50 Cemetery Road
Warren, Connecticut 06754
(860) 868-0331
info@lakewaramaug.org

www.lakewaramaug.org

Molly Butler Hart
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Vice Chair

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The lake Waramaug Task Force is a non-profit scientific and educational organization dedicated to maintaining and preserving the ecology and water quality of Lake Waramaug and its watershed.

NOTE: The Lake Waramaug Task Force is committed to absolute transparency. Any question by any contributor will be answered. Feedback, advice, or suggestions are welcomed. Individuals interested in getting more involved are encouraged to contact us.

November 2017

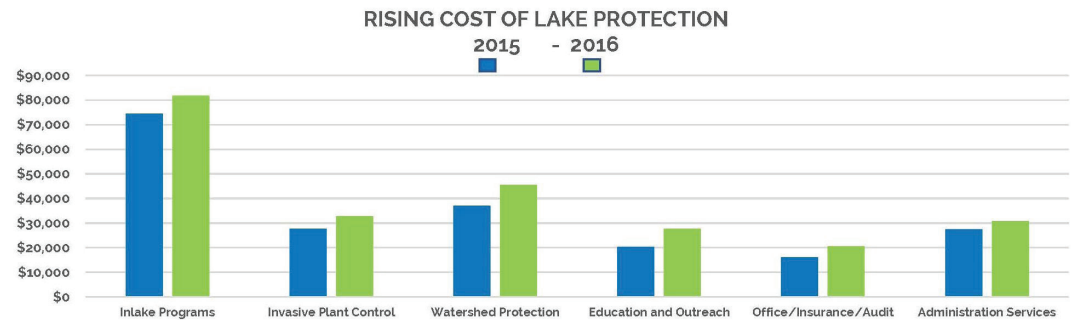
Dear Friend of Lake Waramaug:

We cannot keep Lake Waramaug clear, clean, and swimmable without you.

The exclusive mission of the Lake Waramaug Task Force is to maintain the water quality of the Lake. 50 years ago, prior to the formation of the Task Force, Waramaug was effectively dead. Today, with the benefit of your steadfast support, the Lake is again alive and beautiful. But we must not let down our guard. Persistent invasive species, increasing development, soil erosion, a warming climate, and toxic runoff present ever-increasing challenges.

The cost to our community of not meeting these challenges is clear. Dangerous, toxic Cynobacteria has infiltrated countless Connecticut lakes. Invasive plants choke once beautiful shorelines. Residents health, not to mention property values, are at risk. Without the continuous water quality monitoring and protection programs the Task Force have put in place, Lake Waramaug would be facing such dilemmas.

Here's where we need your help. The expense to the Task Force of maintaining our cutting edge water quality monitoring and protection programs is rising faster than contributions. As indicated below, our total operating expenses in 2016 hit \$240,000. That is a 15% hike over operating expenses for 2015. We project an equal, if not higher, rate of growth of operating expenses for 2017. And these numbers do NOT include capital costs, such as our new layer aeration system installed in 2015.



Next year, we anticipate the need to spend more to continue to control erosion on Sucker Brook, and to increase diver time to remove invasive plants. We'd also like to grow two new, successful programs started in 2016: The Zooplankton Farm, and our complimentary Water Quality Planning Assistance Program, for landowners planning construction and landscaping projects near the Lake. All together, we anticipate the need to budget approximately \$270,000.

We are very specifically asking you - our friends and neighbors - to increase your donation to the Task Force this year by a minimum of 15%, and to commit to supporting the Task Force at a greater level of contribution going forward.

We cannot continue our success in this important work without you.

Thank you,

Molly Butler Hart
Chair, Lake Waramaug Task Force