

David Pond Testimonies
On
Water Level and The Impoundment Area
(8/29/2017 - 10/6/2017)

This document contains information that was gathered by means of the questionnaire found at <http://richardhicks.org/share-your-story.html>. The prompt “water level” is shorthand for the following text in the questionnaire: “Have you ever seen the water level lower than the summer of 2016? If so, when?”

This document will be regularly updated as more information is submitted.

DAVID POND WATER LEVEL INTEREST GROUP WEBSITE HOME PAGE:
<http://richardhicks.org/david-pond-water-level.html>

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TESTIMONIES:

Request: 10/6/2017

Name: Scott Alexander

Years on pond: 40

Seasonal or full-time: Seasonal visitor

Water level: I have not seen the water level lower than the summer of 2016. Through the decades water levels have varied slightly (+/- 12 inches) but have usually been close to levels indicated by woody vegetation along the lake shore. Rarely has exposed gravel or beachfront been noticeable along the lake shore.

Impoundment memories: As a regular summer visitor to David Pond for over 4 decades, I have spent many happy days swimming, boating and fishing along the lake shore.

Fishing reports and water levels are always the first thing discussed upon arrival at the family camp. To my recollection, rarely would the lake level vary by more than 8-12 inches above or below the average waterline, marked by the presence of shrubs and woody vegetation along the banks. The weedy flats on the northeast edge of Upper David could almost always be navigated with a trolling motor and canoe, to circle the large island Upper David. I have caught and released a great many hungry bass from the woody debris and shady overhangs around the edge of David Pond.

I have examined the outflow of the the Pond many times through the years and have always been impressed that such a modest impoundment could do such an admirable job of maintaining consistent lake levels with minimal maintenance. I have been made aware of the acts of vandalism that have occurred in the last few years and I am hopeful that the lake level can be maintained at historic levels, with minimal cost in permitting or construction) to the lake's residents. Lower water levels would most certainly adversely affect property values for the vast majority of residents. Boat access and dock height/length would change dramatically. Passage of small boats through the narrows would

be jeopardized (I don't remember any impassable years in my more than 30 summer visits to the Pond).

As an aquatic ecologist and water resources manager by profession, I am also concerned that the lake's fishery would suffer, at least in the short term, as significantly lower water levels would cause fish to lose much of their shallow spawning and feeding areas as well as the influence of fallen trees and overhanging woody vegetation - often the most productive place to target larger fish in the morning and evening during the warmer months of the year.

I hope Maine's state agency and resource management professionals can assist David Pond residents in maintaining this high quality resource, as it relates to recreation, water quality, wildlife and fisheries.

Other information:

Request: 9/13

Name: John and Deirdre Richardson

Years on pond: 3

Seasonal or full-time: seasonal

Water level: no

Impoundment memories: This has only been our 3rd summer on David pond so we do not have any history before 2015.

Other information: We love David pond and would hate to see a negative impact on the quality of the water, environment and property values by a drop in the water level.

Request: 9/13

Name: Donald Andrews

Years on pond: about 70 years

Seasonal or full-time: seasonal

Water level: Not that I recall

Impoundment memories: It was there as far back as I can remember.

Other information: I always looked forward to coming up to the pond to enjoy fishing and sports.

Request: 9/13

Name: carol bemis

Years on pond: 25

Seasonal or full-time: seasonal

Water level: I cannot recall

Impoundment memories:

Other information: We were unable to float our dock to shore because of the low water level. Luckily there was no damage to my dock nor was there any incident during the winter. Snowmobiles, snowshoers and the like are common on the pond in the winter. Having the dock still on the pond, imbedded in the ice is a danger to all.

Request: 9/12

Name: Michael J. Hicks
Years on pond: Over 20 years
Seasonal or full-time: Full-time
Water level: No.

Impoundment memories: From what I recall since the late 90's there were some larger logs blocking the outlet, as well as a number of smaller branches. Many appeared to have been cut by beavers, as evidenced by the cut ends of the branches.

Other information: We have over 1000' of frontage on the lake, a large portion of which is a raised embankment. Over the millennia it is apparent that the lake has been at a high enough level to create a large berm, I assume from the expansion of the ice in the winter. That would not be possible if the "historic" level of the water allowed for a "beach front" which is now the case, as the water does not even touch the berm.

Request: 9/10
Name: Shelley Duchesne
Years on pond: 50+

Seasonal or full-time: Seasonal, may become full time
Water level: The only other time I have seen the water level this low was the last time the impoundment was intentionally vandalized.

Impoundment memories: I have spent at least part of every summer for the last 50 years on David Pond, and have been here at all seasons. As recently as a year or so ago, it was possible to canoe or kayak almost to the impoundment. In general, while the water level varies slightly with the season, the water level in the past was much higher. At no time in the past can I remember having more than a couple inches of "beach" even in the driest years. I have a 15 foot dock that has wheels, after the impoundment was vandalized, the wheels that were completely submerged were suddenly half exposed. Overnight. All along the shoreline, it is easy to see the record of water height, and the lower, typical summer height. These rocks are completely out of the water now. The water also had great clouds of algae by the middle of August. Usually the water is quite clear, and it is easy to see large fish while kayaking, nothing but murk.

Other information:

Request: 9/9
Name: David Casciano
Years on pond: 42
Seasonal or full-time: seasonal
Water level: no

Impoundment memories: The impoundment was in place when I purchased my property 42 years ago. Visited the impoundment before purchasing the property therefore I can say that the impoundment was in place in 1976.

Other information: Water levels are considerably lower than they were in the 1900s.

Request: 9/9
Name: Ellie Andrews
Years on pond: 69

Seasonal or full-time: Now a full-time resident as of 2010

Water level: I don't ever remember the water level lower than the summer of 2016, even in times of drought.

Impoundment memories: My ancestors bought a large parcel of land on the northeast side of Lower David Pond bordering Sandy River Rd in the 1920's. This parcel included lakefront from partway down Deer Lane to the northeast and continued southeast to the east shore of the Narrows between Upper and Lower David Ponds. The impoundment was in place at the time it was purchased and the documented water level throughout the years has remained steady, varying only due to the natural seasons of the year and impacts of excessive rain or drought. Beavers also contributed to steadyng the impoundment at varying times over the years. In the past year or two, a lake resident has taken it upon himself (and was actually documented on film) in tearing apart both any impact by beavers and also the impoundment itself, making the water level drop drastically. Residents of the lake tried to repair the damage as best they could but, each time, the impoundment was again torn down. This is out and out vandalism of the lakefront and impacts all landowners on the lake. From our understanding both from records found and from memories passed down from our relatives, the impoundment was in position most likely for over 100 years plus. It was not a new entity when they bought the property on the lake and I don't believe the mill that may have built it was even there at the time of their purchase.

Other information: The destruction of the impoundment negatively impacts the wildlife in and around the lake and changes the ecological balance and purity of the lake water itself. David Pond has always been a quiet and pristine lake that has encouraged wildlife, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, small boats and a few pontoon boats. The water quality has always remained high and residents have worked hard to maintain their waterfronts to continue to preserve our precious resource. The destruction of the impoundment jeopardizes the balance of wildlife, aquatic plants and water quality in and around the lake and also jeopardizes property values and recreational potential of the residents of these two lakes. These are the very things that brought our ancestors to David Pond close to 90 years ago and have brought our family back here every year of our lives.

Request: 9/8

Name: Lisa Andrews

Years on pond: 43 years

Seasonal or full-time: Full time for last 3 years, seasonal previous 40 years

Water level: Never. The drought produced extremely low water levels, the lowest I have ever seen.

Impoundment memories:

Other information: While I do not have specific recollections of the impoundment, I have many concerns about the impact the recent malicious destruction has had, and will have, on the rest of the pond. The lower water levels have a multitude of ramifications on many levels.

The ecological impact is of great concern as it relates to the pond itself (such as increased algae blooms) as well as the wildlife that live in and around the water (birds,

fish, beaver, etc.). Clearly the intentional destruction of the impoundment this spring showed little concern for the loons whose access to their nest was threatened. Actions have consequences.

The recreational impact of lower water levels would be significant. Many areas of David Pond are shallow enough to be a challenge for some boats now. If the water level is allowed to become even lower, it would severely impede safe passage in many areas if not totally restrict it, especially the narrows, which connect the two sections of David Pond. Docks that are currently sufficient would need to be extended significantly in order to remain in deep enough water to use for boats and fishing. Actions have consequences.

The financial impact would also be significant. In addition to homeowner expenses in extending and/or revising current docks and waterfront, the property value of many homes would be drastically reduced with a mud flat where the water once was. We experienced this last fall when the drought changed the waterfront so significantly. This preview of what we would be facing if the water level was allowed (even purposely caused) to drop again as much...or more..is of great concern. Actions have consequences.

I hope that for the sake of the environment and the residents on David Pond that the impoundment is allowed to maintain the water level in David Pond as it has for the 43 years I have been privileged to enjoy it.

Request: 9/8

Name: John J. Andrews

Years on pond: 64, the family since the 1920's

Seasonal or full-time: full time since 3 years, all seasons prior

Water level: 2016 was an extraordinarily year. The entire region was experiencing drought. The water level and exposure of lake bottom was the lowest that I had ever seen on David Pond. I had 10 feet plus of pond bottom exposed.

Impoundment memories: I have been to and on the impoundment since I was about 8 years old. As a child the impoundment was much more defined. When looking at the impoundment from the pond side, the ground on the right side was higher and had ground cover and small trees extending to the center where the current rock pile exists. My earliest recollection of the center section where the rock pile is was a combination of rock and boards hold back the water and regulating the level. this would have been in the 1960's. The left side of the impoundment was much more solid than today.

Through the years I have watched the trees on the impoundment grow, blow over and uproots creating new water channels and erosion. Some of these trees have since been cut and removed. Others remain today and are leaning creating new pathways for erosion. 50 years ago one could walk across the impoundment easily without getting wet. People from around the pond would check on the impoundment and repair any winter ice damage in the spring. Beaver have also built dams, reinforcing the impoundment. I have seen damage to the impoundment in recent years. Sections have been torn out and created erosion problems that have negatively impacted the pond.

Others have attempted to repair the damage only to have that torn out. 2017 was the worst damage to date. The center of the impoundment was completely torn out and the level of the pond dropped around 12 inches in 24 hours. That is a massive amount of water scouring the material at the impoundment and washing it downstream. The damage was done repeatedly and fortunately repaired repeatedly. Without the repairs that were done we would have water levels lower than 2016.

Other information: The rocks that were used to repair the center of the impoundment made it look like a new impoundment was created. Those rocks are rocks that were at the site. They have been scoured clean by massive amounts of water that was released by tearing out the structure in the first place. All of the sediment that bound that area together for the last hundred years ended up in the mill pond and Parker Pond below.

As a Career Fire Officer for many years I learned that when responding to an incident, whether a fire or a Hazardous Materials Incident, that I had to evaluate and consider all the information available and formulate my strategy and tactics to mitigate the hazard.

One critical part of that evaluation was for me to turn around. I always would consider what impact my actions would have on the exposures in the area, the general public, and the environment. Without taking these into consideration or having tunnel vision relatively minor situations turn into major, even deadly, incidents. When making a decision on our situation on David Pond I hope that the DEP takes this basic tenant into consideration. Turn around and evaluate the impact on David Pond and the community at large.

I believe that removing the impoundment would have a devastating negative impact on the pond, the environment, and the community at large.

I have been trying to understand motivation of individuals for lowering the water level of the pond. Reduction of power boats? Limiting navigation through the narrows?

Increasing the distance to the high water mark on one's property to allow development on one's property that would previously have been restricted or prohibited by zoning setbacks?

I do not know or understand.

Request: 9/7

Name: Chet and Lois Lenfestey

Years on pond: 15

Seasonal or full-time: seasonal

Water level: no

Impoundment memories: When we bought our property on David Pond we had no idea there was an impoundment. We have enjoyed boating and swimming in the pond and are very concerned about the lowering water level.

Other information:

Request: 9/6

Name: The Jenkins Family

Years on pond: Since 10/89 - 28 years

Seasonal or full-time: Seasonal

Water level: No. Don't remember.

Impoundment memories: Visited for the first time this summer, after becoming aware of the issues with the dam/impoundment and lake level.

Other information: We purchased land from the Patton Corporation in October, 1989.

We had been looking for land for a few years and thought that this place in Lakeview Estates would be perfect. Our deed package included maps of the parcel, dimensions of the lot lines and the locations of the lake shoreline, buffer zone and test pit for our septic system - all of which was reviewed and approved by several agencies, including Maine DEP. We have spent many summers and weekends in the spring and fall, building our homestead, entertaining friends and family, fishing, boating and swimming. Blueberry picking at the lake shorefront is also an enjoyable activity, due to the proximity of the lake level to the shoreline. Our son is in the process of purchasing the lot and house next to our lot. The purchase comes with a dock and boats and a lake level that facilitates their use and enjoyment.

Request: 9/3

Name: Rene & Pauline Mathieu

Years on pond: 46 yrs.

Seasonal or full-time: 28 yrs. full time

Water level: NO

Impoundment memories: That so call rock wall always been there higher that it is now plus many other debris and the beaver dam. We could walk across with ease all summer long.

Other information:

Request: 9/2

Name: Kathleen Jameson

Years on pond: 10

Seasonal or full-time: Full-tme resident for 5 years, part-time for 5 years

Water level: No

Impoundment memories: When I first bought my log home on Shore Road in Fayette, Maine, I was very excited that it came with water access. I kept my kayak at the Common Lot and went swimming and kayaking in David Pond often. In the early mornings, I would walk to the Common Lot with a cup of coffee and sit by the side of the lake and enjoy peace and quiet while looking out over the lake. When family came to visit, the lake was a huge draw. It is an integral part of living in our neighborhood, and if it were to drop significantly in water level, the experience would be seriously and negatively impacted. In 2016 the water level dropped in such a way, and the edges of the lake were exposed for about 20 feet, with exposed rock where water once was. It transformed a beautiful sight into an eyesore.

Other information: It seems likely that after two hundred years at the current level, significant damage to wildlife and the lake/forest ecosystem would result from removing the dam. I sincerely hope that we can find a way to maintain the traditional water level.

Request: 9/2

Name: Billy and Kerry McQuiad

Years on pond: 5

Seasonal or full-time: seasonal

Water level: No

Impoundment memories:

Other information: The past 2 years, we have had to take out our boat for the season before the end of summer due to the much lower water levels.

We purchased this property for the recreational use of the pond. If the impoundment is removed and the water level decreases by 1 foot or more, we will no longer be able to swim, boat or fish from our property' negating the very reason we purchased this seasonal home.

Request: 9/1

Name: Mike Irving

Years on pond: 4

Seasonal or full-time: Seasonal

Water level: No

Impoundment memories: When we first got the camp, the water level at our dock was 2 feet deeper than it is now. Last year it was very low. We could barely get the boat. This year the level is low, if it gets any lower I'm going to have a problem getting the boat out for the year. This is a big problem , we bought this camp so we could use our boat. The weeds in the water are everywhere because the water level is so low. Something has to be done. Thank you

Other information:

Request: 8/30

Name: Martin W. Rigoulot

Years on pond: 36

Seasonal or full-time: Full Time

Water level: Not that I can remember

Impoundment memories: I know this year we have had less rain but early on the lake was lower then normal and it was higher in the spring as normal about when the Loons were just getting back then the water dropped as I am off the island where they have a nest. We were concerned that at one point the loons could not get too their nest

Other information:

Request: 8/30

Name: Carl/Faith Anderson

Years on pond: 1 year

Seasonal or full-time: seasonal but do spend time there during winter months

Water level: been there only one year but was there during last years drought

Impoundment memories:

Other information:

Request: 8/30

Name: Joe Longtin

Years on pond: 12

Seasonal or full-time: Full time since March of 2006

Water level: No

Impoundment memories: In 2006, my wife and I kayaked to the outlet of David pond. I got out of my kayak at the impoundment area and was able to walk on top of the impoundment from one side of the outlet stream to the other. There was an old beaver lodge nearby but there was no beaver dam present and no beavers were sighted. The impoundment was made up of a mixture of soil and rock. There was no water flowing over the top of the impoundment but there was water running under the impoundment through various underground channels.

Other information: In subsequent years since, there has always been a natural impoundment at the outlet of David Pond and this impoundment was the major obstruction to water flow from David Pond down into Parker Pond and was also the major factor in maintaining historical water levels on David Pond.

Request: 8/30

Name: Linda Seidel

Years on pond: 13

Seasonal or full-time: full time

Water level: No never. Have not seen it lower than it is right now!

Impoundment memories: The water level has always been higher than it is right now.

Other than the drought year, this year is lower than I have ever seen it.

There has always been an impoundment at the end of David Pond. I had kayaked down there numerous times over the years and have seen rocks/logs there holding back the water.

Other information:

Request: 8/29

Name: jim seidel

Years on pond: 11

Seasonal or full-time: full time

Water level: no, water level in 2016 was by far the lowest I have ever seen

Impoundment memories: I have personally seen the impoundment at the outlet every year since moving here in 2006. There has always been a rock impoundment, sometimes augmented by beaver dams. The impoundments have done a very good job of keeping the water levels fairly constant on the pond.

Other information:

OTHER CORRESPONDENCES:

Request:

Name: Erika Diller

Address: 653 Shadow Lake Road
Craftsbury Common
Vermont 05827

Phone: 802 586. 2528

email: erikalakeview@vtlink.net

Message: Deb Cayer and Bill Dunham have been keeping me informed about this issue.

As a Chesterville landowner who lives in Vermont I can't be of much help, but our land seems to be a prominent player. I asked the DEP to send me the legislation about the responsibility of landowners in such a situation as this. No word yet.

I believe my father bought this land from Central Maine Power in the 1950's but I will look at the deeds.

Maybe Central Maine Power would have some documentation, photos ?

Erika

DAVID CASCIANO

Dam

To: Liz Hicks

July 24, 2017 at 3:18 PM

DC

Kindly add me to the e-mail list.

A note on the state's letter to Fayette. The dam has been in existence in some form or another for over 40 years and thus pre-exists the need for a permit. It has been rebuilt/repaired several times, but this was maintenance of an existing structure. While the person who destroyed the dam would be liable to the property owners for the cost of repair, the repair of a preexisting structure should not require a permit from the state provided it is returned to its exact preexisting configuration.

Perhaps the property owners should consider retaining the services of an attorney to protect our rights.

July 31, 2017

My name is John J. Andrews.

I live with my wife Lisa at 20 Deer Lane, Fayette, Maine. Lisa and I officially became full time residents about 3 years ago. I am a retired Fire Fighter/ Captain/ Paramedic. My wife is a retired elementary school teacher. My parents had the "camp" built around 1974. The reason my parents built on this land was because the land was given to them by my Aunt Lauretta O'Brien. Lauretta and my Uncle Harry O'Brien purchased a large tract of land on the east side of David Pond in approximately 1928. Harry had been coming up to Maine for years before and renting a farm house with other sportsmen for hunting and fishing with co-workers. When the opportunity arose he purchased the land and farms on David Pond and land across the Sandy River Road. This included the cape with the white picket fence (now owned by the Stantons) and the house with the stockade fence (now owned by, I believe, the Frenchs). The land on David Pond went

from the lot off of Deer Lane around the east side of the pond and into what we call the Narrows.

My Aunt and Uncle lived year round for a number of years, which was no easy feat . My Uncle Harry died in 1953, the year I was born. Lauretta began living on the pond spring, summer and fall. In the early 1960's a Mr. Grebbs, of Parker Lake Shores Inc., contacted my Aunt about buying all of her land on the pond. He would put in roads and sell 50 foot lots on the pond. She refused. Instead she began giving lots to her brothers and sisters.

A total of 5 lots were given and built upon. These buildings were close to the water which was acceptable at the time. My aunt sold to John Kidd and Lief Peachy. Lief's family had owned the property that Lief built on. Lief was a carpenter and built most of my family's cottages. My sister Ellie Andrews built on a 5 acre lot in 2011. My sister Shelley built in 2016 on a 5 acre lot. My cousin Don Andrews lives in the cabin his father built on Hemlock Lane in the 1960's.

My Aunt died in 2000 at the age of 98.

I wanted to give a little background as to who we are and how long we have been on the pond. I have been here every one of my 64 years during the summer and most if not all of the winters over the last 15 years. All of my 5 siblings and their children have made the same summer trek to David Pond. Fayette and David Pond is more like home to us than where we had settled around the country.

My recollections of the outlet of David Pond are both personal observations and oral history. I have personally seen man made impediments since I was a young child. The yearly ritual with my Uncle Harry White, Bill Hinckly and others was to go down to the outlet in the spring and check to see what damage was done by the ice. What ever damage was done was fixed in 15-20 minutes and we went home. My earliest recollections were of a wooden structure in the center with boards to control the water level. I am sure these were not the originals that were there when the mill was operating. I used to be able to walk across what we called the dam on solid ground. That is not the case today due to erosion, both natural and malicious vandalism, that has taken place.

I have aerial photographs from the 1940's -1950's of the whole pond that show the outlet, stream, Bachellor mill pond, and Parker Pond. The most dramatic difference between then and now is that the outlet was devoid of trees. Today the trees have been allowed to grow. None of those trees are more than 70 years old. The trees are now beginning to uproot. This is because of the root structure fanning out on the surface due to the water table being so high in that area. They don't send tap roots down to anchor the trees in place. The wind blows and the root system cannot support the tree and it uproots. When the tree uproots it creates a new route for water to flow and erode the soil. I learned about this while helping to maintain earthen dams in my home town. Ground cover: GOOD / Big trees: BAD. We now have our water filtering through

partially uprooted trees and root systems and areas that have completely eroded due to uprooted trees.

Through the recent years there have been attempts to stop and repair the erosion that has taken place. Rocks, sandbags, hay, branches, and beavers have been used to varying degrees of success. Unfortunately that hard work has been destroyed by other individuals with a different agenda.

This past June, I put my aluminum dock in. The water level was 1 inch below the bottom of the top extrusion. Two days later I found that the water had gone down 12 inches. This was after the loons had gone on nest. Loons are not land animals, they cannot walk on land. They nest at or near the waters edge to get into their nests. After numerous phone calls made and received I went down to see for myself. The rock, mud, and stick center of the outflow had been torn out by someone and then replaced by others. The

Water was filtering through the new rock. The sediment and mud was washed down stream. Without the replacement we could have lost 2 more feet. Two days later the rocks were torn out again and replaced, again by others. The day before the meeting at the Fayette School I was told that someone had torn out 15 inches of the rocks. That was replaced by others. I do not know who is doing the damage. I thank those who are trying to maintain the level of the Pond.

The water level on the Pond has fluctuated through out the years. Wet seasons, dry seasons, beaver are among many factors that have had an impact on the water level. Now it seems to be man. The current level on July 31, 2017 is lower than normal. This level is about what I usually observe at the end of August, beginning of September.

Now that the State of Maine has gotten involved, we have a change as to how and what can be done to preserve our water at a reasonable level. I understand the constraints placed on government employees. Rules, regulations, and procedures must be followed. I truly hope that the State of Maine, Fayette, Chesterville, and the Landowners can give us guidance and help us preserve this resource. It is truly unfortunate that the landowners have been placed in a terrible position. I am sorry that they have been stuck in the middle of this.

I am not a proponent of a major increase in the water level of David Pond. That being said, I am a proponent of a slight increase and maintaining a reasonable level throughout the year. I have experienced springs when the water was up to my garage and others on the Pond had water in their houses. This high water was extraordinary, probably due to beaver. An increase of a foot or so would be great. Maintaining that would be fantastic. We live in the first house at the bottom of the hill on Deer Lane. The area from our house to the end of Deer Lane used to be referred to as the Island. Both my Aunt Lauretta and Lief Peachy had told us as our camp was being built that the water levels were higher in the past and that the area was completely surrounded by water. In 1964 they built Deer Lane through the swamp. If you Google Earth Deer Lane today you can still see the difference in vegetation and outline of the Island. It was probably similar to the Island on the east section of the Pond today.

I was also told by my Aunt that my Uncle Harry didn't want to put a row boat on the other side of the pond to fish so he and some locals dynamited the narrow channel between the ponds. I know that Fred Jackman states that his grandfather opened the narrows to float logs to Jackman's Mill. That would also make sense. The only question I have to that is that if the water level is historically lower than it is today you would not be able to get anything through the narrows let alone logs that don't float as well as my pontoon boat. There is less than 2 and half feet of water in sections of the narrows today.

Concerning the existence of a dam or impediment I was also told by my Aunt, Lief and other old timers that the mill used to control the level of David Pond to ensure there was enough water in the mill pond to operate the water wheel for power. If the water was not recovering fast enough in the mill pond they would pull a batter board out at David Pond to fill the mill pond. Smart people!

Most people don't realize that what we see of David Pond and the land around it is not what was seen 100 years ago, 200 years ago. This was not natural Maine wilderness.

This was a thriving farm and factory community with a lot more residents, houses and farms than today. I have pictures from 1928 of my Aunt's house taken from Sandy River Rd that show very few trees. This was all farm land. The trees had been cut at the mills, farmers moved in, the chimney at Rte 41 employed 100's of people. The Pond was a resource for power, watering animals, food, ice, and transportation. Other than a few Homestead Trees, our woodland is very young. Most less than 50 years. People worked, lived and died on this land.

We use the pond for recreation. We need to take care of it