

BASIN DAVID & TILTON PONDS ASSOCIATION

David Pond Water Quality 2019

From invasive species to nutrient enrichment to harmful algal blooms, as well as the gradual loss of cold-water fisheries, we face unprecedented threats and challenges to the preservation of the water quality of our lakes, and they are all exacerbated by the warming waters.

Some of these threats we can do something about and others are harder and more global. “As lake water warms the conditions for algal growth are generally enhanced.”

Here on David, we monitor for invasive species with a pond survey conducted by volunteers. We test for water clarity, dissolved oxygen and lake chemistries. The data gathering has been just clarity, and ongoing for several years. However, since the 30 mile took this over in 2017, the testing has been more consistent throughout the season with a much broader data base. This data will give us the information needed to determine the status of our lake water. Remember as reported last season, David is on the list for vulnerable lakes due to certain ratios of elements in our water. We also observe for algal blooms and report in to the Lake Stewards of Maine (VLMP), and the DEP.

In short, we do what we can. However, everyone needs to do their part. Survey your lakefront property or your camp road during a good rain. Do you have runoff into the lake? Do you need more buffer and less lawn? If you don’t know where to start, let us help with a free lake smart survey and or help with camp road improvement planning.

We have formed a new LakeSmart team for David and Parker. We have been trained by the Maine Lakes Society and we are ready to help. As you remember the LakeSmart survey of your lake front property is free, completely voluntary and nonregulatory.

We all need to help pay for these much-needed programs, please be as generous as you can. If you would like to become more involved, you may consider becoming part of the citizen lake science movement as a volunteer. Participating can be great fun. As you become more educated about the threats to our pond, you can help protect it.

Contact Deb Cayer (debbiecayer@gmail.com) or the 30 Mile (lidie@30mileriver.org)