



Spring 2023

Friends of Lake Quannapowitt

"Preserving and enhancing the waters of Lake Quannapowitt and its surrounding lands"

Letter from our President

This has been another busy time for FOLQ and thanks to the board members who have pitched in with hours of work and to the community who supports us with memberships, donations, and attendance at our events, such as the Annual Breakfast and the Annual Meeting.



Margaret Coppe

The Landscape Committee put in hours of work installing new pollinator plantings, paid for by FOLQ, at Spaulding Park and are planning to plant more this spring in the Colonel Connelly area. In addition, take note of the four shade trees planted in the fall in the flagpole area, which are starting to bloom! We want to acknowledge the Town of Wakefield's DPW assistance for their efforts in improving these parkland areas.

The Water Quality Committee is working on plans to resume water testing.

I will close with words from Jim Scott, one of our founding members and strong supporters of FOLQ, who passed away in November 2022, "Motion to adjourn." He will be sorely missed.

Annual Meeting, May 24th Presentation to feature water quality solutions

Please join us at our Annual Meeting and Presentation at Bear Hill Golf Club in Stoneham on Wednesday, May 24th. A dinner and a business meeting will be followed by an educational presentation and discussion. FOLQ has invited Dominic Meringolo, Environmental Engineer for Solitude Lake Management, Inc., to present and discuss possible in-lake solutions being used to reduce persistent algae blooms and improve water quality in lakes and ponds. These solutions would complement and provide additional impact to the Town's current efforts to limit nutrients from entering the lake directly through storm water runoff.

5:30 Cash Bar/Social Hour
6:15 Buffet Dinner
7:00 Business Meeting
7:15 Solitude Lake Management Presentation

By attending you will help us achieve our goal to inform and educate the community.

Please make reservations at <https://folq.org/event/annual-business-meeting/>.

There is no charge if you are only attending the Speaker Presentation at 7:15.



Learn about options to eliminate Blue Green Algae.

FOLQ Membership Annual Dues are Due!

Help FOLQ by becoming a member in 2023. A membership dues request for 2023 is being posted in this newsletter. Dues annually are \$25 and \$35 for single or family memberships respectively. A commercial membership is \$150. Two new and convenient ways to pay are:

1. Capture the QR code to the right on your smartphone and complete your membership and payment information.
2. Visit our website at <https://folq.org/join>.

If you prefer to use US Mail, send payment and membership information to: FOLQ, P.O. Box 51, Wakefield, MA 01880.

Your membership and the support it provides allows us to continue efforts to preserve, protect and enhance the lake and its surrounding areas.



What's Coming to the Lake?

Veterans Field Parking Lot Rehabilitation:

Wakefield Public Works — Engineering Division (DPW) is in the initial stages of the design and planning of a reconstruction of the Veterans Field parking lot and installation of a new public bathroom. The project proposes the reconstruction of the parking lot to facilitate the installation of new green infrastructure retrofits to provide treatment of storm water prior to discharging into Lake Quannapowitt. The parking lot work will be regraded to direct the storm water to a new bioretention area located in the current grassed island area. Example of proposed configuration is below.

New Bathroom Facility:

In addition to the parking lot reconstruction, the DPW will undertake the development of a new bathroom facility in the Veterans Field/Hall Park area. The bathroom facility location, size and style will be decided through an extensive public outreach campaign this spring. The preliminary schedule anticipates the development of conceptual options and public outreach beginning in late spring, early summer 2023, design through summer of 2023 and site work construction for the parking lot and bathroom in fall of 2023. The final bathroom install will be completed by the spring of 2024. The project is funded through a legislative earmark and ARPA funds.



Example of proposed configuration of bioretention area in Veterans Field Parking Lot

Volunteers for Field Trip Needed

Volunteers will be supporting an important curriculum program, initiated in 1995 with an award-winning grant developed by FOLQ and the Galvin School science department. The classroom learning culminates in a trip to wetlands along the Saugus River in Breakheart Reservation. Volunteers (who do not need to know any science) enhance the field trips by adding responsible adults to the small groups of students. Volunteers agree to attend one of 12 sessions (8:20-10:50 am or 11:20-1:50 pm during 6 school days - Tues. May 30th through June 6th). **To volunteer, contact us by May 19: email us at mail@folq.org or leave a voicemail at 781-486-3795.**



200 Quannapowitt Project to Begin

The residential project at the head of the lake will begin in April with a two month abatement period, three months of demolition, with construction to follow.



Access to the lake path will remain open and unencumbered throughout the construction.