



Spring 2025

Friends of Lake Quannapowitt

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

Letter from our President

Dear Members,

Recently while researching information through much of the FOLQ archives, I was struck by how much attention has been given and for how long a period of time to Lake Q's poor water quality. Interest in reporting, identifying, documenting, recommending and attempting solutions to improve the lake's water quality is documented cutting across Federal and State agencies, Town Government, volunteer groups, engineering firms and private citizens. While this has been going on for well over 100 years, the lake has been very patient.



Bill Conley

However, with the soon expected release to the DPW of a lake water quality condition report and improvement recommendation from a completed study by SOLitude Lake Management, we should have a strategy to consider. Different people than before but with similar authorities and responsibilities will need to come together to make a commitment to determine a way to reach the elusive goal of the past 100+ years, that is a safer, more recreationally diverse and aesthetically appealing lake.

FOLQ looks forward to representing you and being a contributing partner in the next water quality improvement discussions.

Sincerely,
Bill Conley

Annual Meeting, May 22

Please join us at our **Annual Meeting and Presentation** at **Bear Hill Golf Club** in Stoneham on **Thursday, May 22**. A dinner and a business meeting will be followed by an educational presentation and discussion. The presentation will be given by Ian Ramey, Principal at Copley Wolff Landscape Architecture and his team. Ian will cover the many design considerations and challenges for the landscape at the soon opening new residential development, The Basin, at 200-400 Quannapowitt Parkway.

Meeting Agenda:

5:30 - Cash Bar/Social Hour

6:15 - Buffet Dinner, \$35 pp

7:00 - Business Meeting

7:15 - Presentation by Copley Wolff

There is no charge if you are only attending the speaker presentation at 7:15.



Please make dinner reservations at <https://givebutter.com/FOLQdinner>, or by capturing the QR code above with your smartphone. By attending you will help us achieve our goal to inform and educate the community.



Artist sketch of the new rain garden between the building and new pathway alongside the building at 200-400 Quannapowitt.

Upcoming Events

Look for information on our website and social media about the following upcoming FOLQ events in 2025...

May 27 - June 3	Galvin Watershed Trips	Breakheart
June 7	Festival by the Lake	Common
June 8	Bricks Dedication	Flagpole
July 17	Learn to Fish	Common
Late Oct, early Nov	Galvin Cleanup	Common
Nov 16	Annual Breakfast	3 C's

Membership Dues are Due!

Help FOLQ by **becoming a member in 2025**. Dues annually are **\$25** and **\$35** for single or family memberships respectively. A commercial membership is **\$150**. Here's how to pay:

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



NEW! - FOLQ Member Spotlight

In 2024, Friends of Lake Quannapowitt saw a remarkable increase in the number of people actively volunteering to help with our efforts. We asked two of our newest volunteers, Rebecca Anderson (left in photo) and Rachel Moulton (right), why they started volunteering with [FOLQ's work to remove invasive plants along the lakeshore](#).

Both volunteers say that part of their inspiration was being able to do something hands-on for this community.

For new Wakefield resident Rebecca, it was the chance to combine her hobbies with community involvement. "I recently moved to Wakefield and, as a retired person, I was looking for opportunities to use my skills to help the community," Rebecca says. "I love gardening, so it seemed like a perfect fit to help take care of the lake that is such a valuable asset for the town."

And Rachel wanted to combine her interests in conservation with her positive experience growing up in Wakefield. "I grew up in Wakefield with the playgrounds, walking paths, and beautiful flora around Lake Quannapowitt as a backdrop," says Rachel. "As I developed a personal interest in native plants and conservation, I sought the opportunity to gain more experience and hands-on skill while also making a direct impact on my local community."

After starting to volunteer this past fall, Rachel and Rebecca are now doing even more to support FOLQ by helping to organize volunteer and educational efforts. Volunteering with Friends of Lake Quannapowitt is a wonderful way to have a direct, lasting impact on your community and we are grateful for all our volunteers! If you want to get involved this spring, fill out our volunteer form at folq.org/volunteer.



FOLQ member volunteers Rebecca Anderson (left) and Rachel Moulton (right) remove invasive plants along the lakeshore.

Brick Dedication Ceremony



You are invited to join the Friends of Lake Quannapowitt on **Sunday, June 8 at 2:00pm** for a Brick Dedication Ceremony recognizing the engraved bricks installed in 2024 and 2025 at the Col. Connelly Park Flagpole Plaza.

The brick dedication ceremony is held in appreciation of the brick donors and will include a reflection on the significance of the bricks and the inscriptions they bear.

Please note that seating will not be provided—guests are invited to bring a lawn chair for their comfort.

The ceremony will take place if there is minor wind or rain. In the event of severe weather, the ceremony will be held in Spring 2026. Notice will be posted on the FOLQ Instagram and Facebook pages and website.

Improvements in the parklands surrounding Lake Quannapowitt are made possible by the generosity and support of our brick donors. Learn more about the [Bricks program here](#).



Fish Line Receptacles

Since early 2024, FOLQ has been working on a program to install fishing line recycling receptacles around Lake Quannapowitt. The effort was spurred by the entanglements of a Great Horn Owl on New Year's Day, 2024, and a Common Loon later that winter, which led to public calls for better ways to keep our shores clean of discarded fishing line (also known as monofilament). With the support of the Department of Public Works and the Town Council, plus helpful input from the public, FOLQ will build and install receptacles this spring. Any fishing line, lures, bobbers, and hooks found around the lake can be placed in the receptacles. FOLQ will empty the bins regularly throughout the year.

[Learn more about the program and how you can help here.](#)

