



# MANCHAUG POND FOUNDATION

P. O. Box 154  
Manchaug, Massachusetts 01526

[www.ManchaugPond.org](http://www.ManchaugPond.org)

## Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

President:

David Schmidt

1st Vice President:

Karen Bronson

2nd Vice President:

Andrew Mosher

Treasurer:

Edward Biehn

Recording Secretary:

Laura Burgess

Corresponding Secretary:

Phyllis Charpentier

### DIRECTORS

Area 1:

Paul Eklund

Linda Nelson

Area 2:

Karen Bronson

William Cosenza

Ted DeMeo

Marty Jo Henry

Andrew Mosher

Area 3:

Edward Biehn

Phyllis Charpentier

William Langlois

Area 4:

Peter Gauthier

Area 5:

David Schmidt

William Wence

Area 6:

Laura Burgess

Area 7:

Joan McCowan

## MPF Board Develops a “Toolbox” of Lake Management Controls

Earlier this year the Manchaug Pond Foundation members of Board of Directors and the Aquatic Plant Survey Team met with Solitude Lake Management of Shrewsbury to learn more about the options that are available for controlling aquatic plants in our lake. The controls will primarily target non-native aquatic plants, such as Variable Milfoil and Fanwort, that can quickly spread and outcompete native plants. Solitude's senior environmental engineer, Dominic Meringolo, also explained control options for algae and invasive shoreline reeds.

At the February Board of Directors meeting, the directors debated whether to fund the permitting needed to pursue multiple management controls, both chemical and non-chemical. The annual lake-level drawdown is a control that has been used for many years. The drawdowns have been effective but are limited to areas of the pond that are not more than about 5 feet deep. Based on recent aquatic plant surveys, it is clear that we need to explore options in addition to the annual drawdowns. These options include:

- Chemical controls
- Benthic (lake bottom) barriers
- Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH)
- Returning to a deeper level for the annual drawdown.

These options will help control aquatic plants beyond the 5-foot depth. Use of any of these options requires permits and approval from local Conservation Commission and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

After much discussion, the Board of Directors approved a motion to appropriate the funds to proceed with the permitting process. This includes a Notice of Intent and approval from the local Conservation Commission of Sutton and Douglas. Solitude Lake Management will handle most of the permitting process. They will request permits that allow the Manchaug Pond Foundation to choose from a “toolbox” of control methods. Abutters of the lake will be officially notified and the MPF will provide updates as to meetings and information on the website.

At this time, the MPF Board is applying for the permits only and has made no decisions on which controls will be used. After the permits have been obtained, Solitude Lake Management will provide the MPF Board with recommendations for specific areas of the pond where aquatic plant controls are needed to provide the most benefit.

Sincerely,

The Manchaug Pond Foundation Board of Directors