

MORE NOTES FROM LINDA

Nominating Committee for next year is comprised of **Jamie Rothfus, Howie Sherman, Ruth Desjardins and Jeannie Mangini**. Please contact one of them if you are interested in a TLIA vacancy beginning the second Sunday of July '07. We need a co-president, vice president and a director. Someone reading this will be welcomed into the "best little lake association" in Maine!

Be a Detective of Soil Erosion!

Each year you watch the gradual washing away of your shoreline. What can you do? Fact sheets from two sources list questions to help you determine what are the causes along with possible solutions. Here are three—the next newsletter will print more:

1. Is concentrated storm water runoff a factor? During rainstorms, does a lot of rainwater runoff from roofs, driveways and lawns, concentrate in a low spot and then channel down a slope? Is a gully forming?

Sometimes you can install gutters at the roof edge and divert water from the rain spouts away from the slope to a stable, flat and well-vegetated area. Also, you can reinforce the slope with stone where the water is channeling.

2. Are there problems with the vegetation holding the slope? Thick, healthy vegetation contributes greatly to slope stability by holding soil together with the root structure. Carefully check the quality of the vegetation on the slope.

3. Is it mostly bare soil covered with pine needles or leaves (usually the case where tree growth is dormant)? Has slash been disposed of on the banks (which kills vegetation by smothering it)? Is the bank overly shaded for shrub growth?

Remove all slash (cut down vegetation). Select appropriate vegetation (call Androskoggin Soil and Water Conservation District), plant it, protect it and foster its growth. Install a combination of vegetation and riprap protection.

Updates: Watershed Construction

1. **Fernald Estates**—located on 60+ acres of land on Johnson Hill Road, West Poland. The area will have two accesses. The first is on the right side of Rt. 11 (Bakerstown Rd.) one mile from North Raymond Rd. intersection. The second will be on the westerly side of N. Raymond Rd. extension by the Merrill Assoc. property. Presently, Hancock Lumber for Meyer Assoc. has built road in off Rt. 11 and has begun work on the first house. The plan is to build, in two stages, forty-five starter homes clustered in groups, supposedly leaving large areas of green.

TLIA receives notification of each stage of the project and we have just received their plan to apply to DEP. When all criteria are met, they will appear before the Poland Planning Board. In December '05 the engineer told me they planned to start building in the spring of '07.

2. **Hemlocks Campground** is under new ownership—Ernestine and Gile Albert—they have asked the Planning Board for permission to okay to enlarge the campground by twenty-five campsites. At the Planning Board meeting on September 26, 2006, they were asked to bring a sketch plan showing present sites, leach fields and septic in addition to the proposed new sites. The Alberts heard from attorneys for TLIA and for Peter Beaudry about concerns regarding present day noncompliance points—i.e., sites too close to lake, poor septic and gray water systems, feces dumping on abutter's land, not enough lake frontage to allow any more sites, campers having attached decks and porches (which is against 1993 court case Bilodeau vs. Town of Poland). The Alberts asked that the expansion proposal be tabled at this time. (Design plan can be tabled for up to six months.)

3. **C and J Builders** have appeared before the Town's Planning Board to ask for a permit to build six duplexes on land across from the Public Beach along Bakerstown Rd. with access off White Oak Hill Road. This Poland builder would use one road in. Twelve units are to have attached garages. This would be an adult community with persons owning the units and the common land. Much land would remain green and have trails.

Essay Contest

It was voted to invite interested fourth graders (ages 9 and 10) related to TLIA members to enter our spring Essay Contest. Have your daughter, son, grandchild, niece, nephew, write an one-page essay entitled, "Why I'd Like To Attend The Maine Conservation School and What I'd Bring Back To My Community." Send it to Linda Laskey, PO Box 119, West Poland, ME 05291 or email to ORMPOLAND@prexar.com. **Deadline is April 30, 2007.** Good Luck! This is the only notification given, so mark your calendar and talk it up. One winner will be chosen to receive a \$500 week-long scholarship to Bryant Pond's well-respected Maine Conservation Camp. Check out its website.

Poland Regional High School

Teacher Michelle Garcia at PRHS will be receiving up to \$1,000 for her work with students in biology this coming school year. The Executive Board is appreciative of her willingness to help with our Watershed Action Plan projects. For three years TLIA has voted to help her financially.