

# McWain Pond News

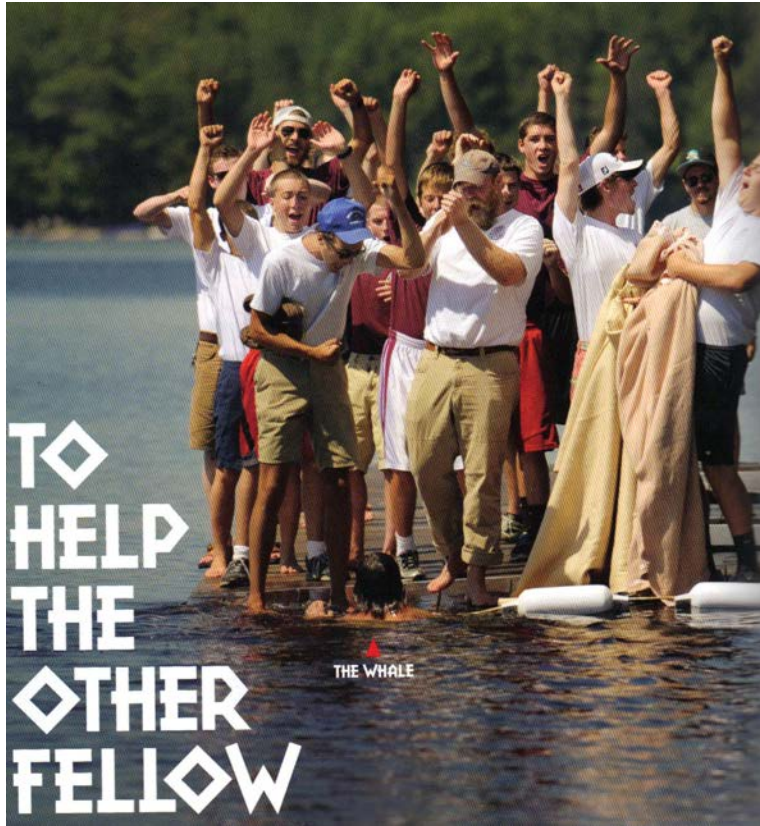
April 2013

**ANNUAL MEETING 10 a.m. JULY 13, 2013, BIRCH ROCK CAMP  
REFRESHMENTS, BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**



*Soon after ice-out, the shadbush erupts in a riot of white blossoms and brown leaves. Few are around to see this bright display.*

*A wild iris is rarely sighted.*



**BIRCH ROCK CAMP**

Featured in

**maine.**

*Magazine (January 2013)*

In six pages of color photos and well-written text, Birch Rock Camp received praise for its mission to “make young boys into old fashioned men.” The magazine also focused on the camp’s motto, “To help the other fellow.”



## Threat to the Crooked River by Tar Sands Oil

*This article is condensed from a longer one written by McWain Pond resident Earl Morse. It is available on our association web site, [www.mcwainpond.org](http://www.mcwainpond.org) and [www.waterford4me.org](http://www.waterford4me.org). The pipeline operator was invited to submit an article, but did not.*

The Crooked River, our pond, and Waterford are under threat from a proposal to reverse the flow of the Portland to Montreal pipeline to carry potentially destructive tar sands oil, which, in the event of a rupture or leak, would destroy our water resources and property values. The pipeline runs through Waterford and crosses the Crooked River five times.

A majority of Waterford's property tax income comes from properties within Shoreland zones. We value highly our clean water resources. Our pond contributes a steady flow to the Crooked River, which is a nursery for Sebago Lake's famous landlocked salmon. The river provides about 40% of the flow into Sebago, which in turn supplies drinking water to about 200,000 people in the Portland area. The Crooked River is rated at the highest quality, AA, and our pond is one of the significant contributors to this unique, pristine river. We all have a stake in maintaining the river as a recreational resource, its water quality, and natural beauty.

The existing oil pipeline was established as an emergency measure during World War II when German submarines were sinking shipping at the mouth of the Saint Lawrence River. Canada needed oil, and Portland Harbor was a defensible area. Consequently, a 1-foot pipeline (no longer used) was established along the Crooked River and defended by troops stationed along it.

After the war, the transport of oil to Canada expanded in 1950 with an 18-inch line and in 1965 a 2-foot line. Most pipelines are engineered with a 30-year useful life. Our pipelines are already beyond that, and older pipes leak more than new ones. Add to that, tar sands are so thick they need to be diluted with chemicals and subjected to greater pressure in order to flow.

The 2-foot diameter pipe that currently carries crude oil through our town contains a volume of over three million gallons of pressurized oil between the North Waterford and Raymond unmanned pumping stations. How much of this would escape into our river and its wetlands should a leak occur is anyone's guess, but in 2010 a tar



sand oil pipeline burst in Michigan and leaked nearly 1 million gallons of tar sand oil into the Kalamazoo River. It was the largest inland pipeline break in our nation's history. That pipeline was 10 years newer than ours.

If we were to suffer a similar break, in all likelihood, the Crooked River as we know it would be destroyed for generations. So far, the pipeline owner, Exxon/Enbridge, has spent nearly a billion dollars cleaning up the Kalamazoo and has had to purchase 132 homes that became uninhabitable. Exxon/Enbridge also owns the pipeline that runs through Waterford.

Last fall, some Waterford citizens got together and formed a committee called "Clean Water for Waterford." They developed a website at [www.waterford4me.org](http://www.waterford4me.org) to disseminate news and science-based information on the Crooked River and tar sands oil. They made three presentations at the town hall to help people understand the issues. During these meetings, they encouraged support for a resolution to oppose the Exxon/Enbridge proposal to reverse the flow of the pipeline and pump tar sands from Montreal to Portland for export.

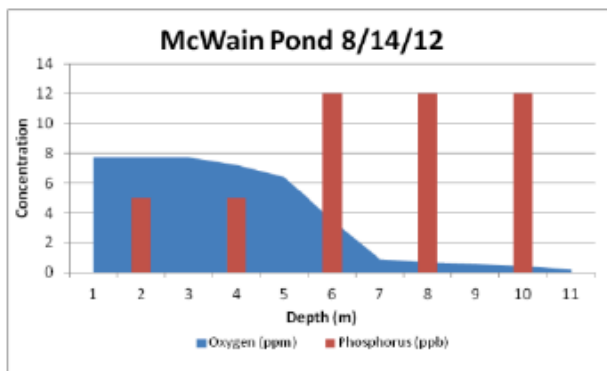
At the 2013 Town Meeting a majority of the voters resolved to oppose the movement of tar sands oil through Waterford. The final decision will be made at the federal level.



***Kalamazoo River Clean up - ongoing***

LAKES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT SHOWS McWAIN  
 POND WATER QUALITY REMAINS AT  
**“MODERATE/HIGH DEGREE OF CONCERN”**

**McWain Pond** – The 2012 Secchi disk average of 5.6 meters was less deep than the long-term average of 6.0 meters for the pond. Dissolved oxygen depletion was first observed in the bottom waters in late July. Depletion continued and expanded up the water column for the rest of the summer. Phosphorus concentrations in the surface waters averaged 6.4 ppb, which is less than the long term average of 7.4 ppb. Below the thermocline, phosphorus concentrations averaged 12 ppb. Alkalinity was 5 ppm, which is below the long term average of 6 ppm and pH was the same as the long term average of 6.7. Chlorophyll concentrations were moderate at 3.4 ppb, which is above the long-term average of 3.1 ppb. Conductivity was the same as the long term average of 24  $\mu$ s and color was 19 SPU, which is above the long term average of 17 SPU. Because of dissolved oxygen depletion in the bottom waters, McWain Pond remains in the MODERATE/HIGH degree of concern category.



<b>Surface Area:</b>	445 acres
<b>Maximum Depth:</b>	42 feet
<b>Mean Depth:</b>	23 feet
<b>Volume:</b>	9,756 acres/feet
<b>Watershed Area:</b>	2,505 acres
<b>Flushing Rate:</b>	0.5 flushes per year
<b>Elevation:</b>	533 feet

**McWain Pond Quick Statistics**  
 2012 Average Verses the Long Term Average:  
 Secchi : Worse  
 Chlorophyll: Worse  
 Phosphorus: Better

McWAIN POND ASSOCIATION, PO BOX 58, WATERFORD, ME 04088  
[www.mcwainpond.org](http://www.mcwainpond.org)

**OFFICERS**

President: Tony Butterall  
[tonybutterall@yahoo.com](mailto:tonybutterall@yahoo.com)  
 207 583 2955

Vice President: Peter Sevcik  
[Peter@netforecast.com](mailto:Peter@netforecast.com)  
 207 583 2039  
 434 249 1310

Secretary: Donna Butterall  
 207 583 2955

Treasurer: Paul Krinsky  
[plkrinsky@gmail.com](mailto:plkrinsky@gmail.com)  
 212 496 8318

**TRUSTEES**

Bob Crocker  
 Rich Deering  
 Dave Hanson  
 Jim Kearney  
 Peter Leslie  
 Earl Morse  
 Peg Nation  
 Gary Smith  
 Annette Tomaino  
 Tom Tremblay  
 Bruce Whichard

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

We started the year with	\$7,021
Contributions and Dues	\$2,480
Charitable Contributions	\$ 800
General Expenses	\$ 189
We ended the year with:	\$8,512

In Memoriam

Carol Brewster  
1931-2013

Wife, mother, educator, writer, gardener,  
environmentalist  
Trustee of Birch Rock Camp

**Fourth of July  
Commodore Bob Hanger  
Boat Parade**

This McWain Pond tradition started years ago by Bob Hanger and a few others who circled the pond in little outboards, proudly holding the Stars and Stripes and ringing bells to commemorate our nation's birth.

Let's keep it up. Gather at 3:45 p.m. at off the "Cottages at McWain Point" That is on the eastern shore about 1/4 mile north of Birch Rock Camp.

All vessels are welcome. If you row, paddle, or sail join the parade for a hundred yards. If you remain ashore, decorate your docks, blow bugles, ring bells, sound drum rolls as the parade passes. All forms of participation welcome.



**WE THANK OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS**

**Wilson Excavating, Inc.**  
(207) 583-4632

444 Bisbee Town Rd  
Waterford, ME 04088



*Complete Residential & Commercial Site Work*  
For all your excavating needs. Family Business Since 1968

*Waganaki Properties*

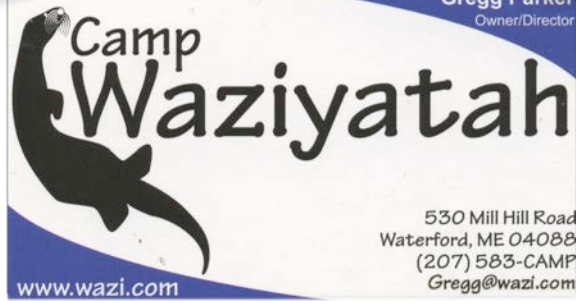
Mary Kate McTeigue

53 River Street

Great Barrington MA 01230

413 528 3298 h 212 729 7225 c

Gregg Parker  
Owner/Director



530 Mill Hill Road  
Waterford, ME 04088  
(207) 583-CAMP  
Gregg@wazi.com



*A nonprofit corporation*

**Richard B. Deering  
Michael A. Mattson**  
*Directors*

**Birch Rock Camp**  
P.O. Box 148  
Waterford, ME 04088

Summer: (207) 583-4478  
Winter: (207) 741-2930  
email: birchrock@aol.com  
www.birchrock.org



**Turn Key Homes**  
**OF MAINE**

**Complete Home Packages**

MODULARS · SITE BUILT · COMMERCIAL PROJECTS  
LOTS · SITE WORK · FOUNDATIONS · GARAGES · DECKS

698 Main St. (Rt. 26), Oxford, ME 04270  
www.turnkeyhomesofmaine.com

Todd Truman, President  
todd@turnkeyhomesofmaine.com

Office (207) 539-6900  
Fax (207) 539-6901