1999-2000 Annual Meeting was held on July 2, 1999

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document 1 of 1



## PROPERTY OWNERS ASK SELECTMEN TO HELP RESCUE LAKE FROM WEEDS: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Jul 24). Property owners ask selectmen to help rescue lake from weeds. Hartford Courant, pp. B.5-B5. Retrieved from http://search.proquest.com/docview/256040253?accountid=46248

Tubbs said the property owners want to cordon off the infested area from boat traffic because the weed can be spread by catching onto the bottom of a boat and falling off somewhere else in the water.

First Selectwoman Joyce Okunuk said she would contact the state Department of Environmental Protection today to ask permission to cordon off the area. If permission is granted, the homeowners are expected to cordon off the area with homemade buoys next week.

A letter explaining the situation is to be sent out to property owners on the lake and signs will be posted at the boat launch area and campground and on the dam.

As for the long term, Tubbs told the board that money will be needed to fix the problem and that the town will have to get involved.

Okunuk responded that there is no money for the work. The selectmen had included funds to maintain the lake in the budget for this year, but that was rejected by the board of finance. However, she said she would see if money is available in the building and grounds budget. Meanwhile, she suggested the property owners ask for townwide donations to save the lake, which is only 9 feet deep and used by the public.

Tubbs said the group is forming a lake association. A meeting will be held Saturday, at 2 p.m., at the lake campground. The public is invited to attend and join.

Tubbs said the group would review lake regulations and look to establish a boat user fee for each craft that uses the lake. The revenue would help maintain the lake, Tubbs said. The group plans to visit the board of finance at its monthly meeting in August.

#### document 1 of 1



# DEP INVOLVED IN LAKE'S WEED PROBLEM: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Jul 29). Dep involved in lake's weed problem. Hartford Courant, pp. B.4-B4. Retrieved from

#### **Full Text**

The town will need permission from the state Department of Environmental Protection before it can cordon off a section of Lake Williams that is infested with a weed that could eventually destroy the lake.

**Lenny Tubbs**, president of the newly formed Friends of Lake Williams, said the **DEP must** grant a permit before the area can be closed to boaters.

**Tubbs** explained that boaters going through the infested area, which now covers **about 2** acres, fragment the weed, known as milfoil, and spread it to other parts of the 270-acre lake. The fast-growing weed has spread quickly since last **summer**, when it was visible only as a few clumps.

Last week, Tubbs and other property owners brought their concerns to selectmen. First Selectwoman Joyce Okonuk said the board would like to help, but has no money to do so. She said the board included money for the lake in its proposed budget, but the board of finance rejected the request.

Hank Baxter, an environmental protection maintainer with the DEP, told Okonuk that the town does not have the authority to shut down part of the lake without a permit. Okonuk said she was expecting a permit application to arrive Tuesday.

Baxter said Tuesday that the application sets certain requirements of the town.

"They will have to supply maps of the lake, depth of the water and reason for the request," Baxter said. He said the permit approval process could take a few weeks.

Securing a permit is only one hurdle the town faces. Baxter said if the permit is approved, the town would have to post signs and place buoys to cordon off the area. The selectmen and lake property owners had discussed using plastic milk cartons to rope off the area because the town has no money to purchase buoys.

"I told {Okonuk} that milk cartons are unacceptable," Baxter said.

On Saturday, lake property owners met to organize a new advocacy group, Friends of Lake Williams. Tubbs said 40 people joined and the organization's paperwork has been filed with the secretary of the state. Tubbs' wife, Deborah, is treasurer. Dixie Sorenson was elected vice president, and Penny Herman was named secretary.

Tubbs said he hopes to educate the public about the lake through a newsletter and organize a fight against the milfoil, which is so destructive that regulations governing it have been adopted in Illinois, Minnesota and Washington.

Tubbs warned that the weed problem would be too expensive to fix if it overtakes the entire lake. He said there are several ways to attack the milfoil, including stocking the water with grass carp or harvesting.

#### document 1 of 1



# OFFICIAL SAYS WEED PROBLEM AT LAKE MAY BE WORTH FIXING: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Aug 18). Official says weed problem at lake may be worth fixing. Hartford Courant, pp. B.3-B3. Retrieved from

#### **Full Text**

Repairs to the dam on Lake Williams may leave the town with no choice but to save the lake from a weed that is threatening to turn it into a swamp, according to board of finance Chairman Ronald Bender.

"It would look uneconomical that we repaired the dam, but now we can't use the lake," Bender said in response to questions about the weed problem.

A few years ago, the town opted to spend approximately \$1 million to fix the dam that controls the water level of the lake, Bender said. If the town turns its back on the current weed problem, it will appear that the town wasted a million dollars on the dam, he said.

"The lake is part of the town, and the people are part of the town," Bender said, so somehow we are all in this thing together."

Bender made the comments following the finance board's meeting with the lake residents late last week. Although the meeting yielded no monetary promises, organization President Lenny Tubbs said he was encouraged. "It appears that we educated them," he said.

The finance board's position on the weed problem comes as somewhat of a surprise. Only last spring, the finance board decided to cut proposed funds to fight the problem from the board of selectmen's proposed 1998-99 budget.

According to residents around the lake, a fast-spreading weed known as milfoil is threatening to take over, something that would make boating, fishing and swimming very difficult. The residents, who recently formed the Friends of Lake Williams to preserve the resource, have asked the town to help save the lake.

Bender said the board left the issue open-ended, but added that ultimately the residents at a town meeting will decide how much money, if any, could be spent battling the milfoil. Right now, the weeds cover approximately 3 acres of the lake on the eastern side.

#### document 1 of 1



# LAKE AREAS MAY CLOSE TO FOIL WEEDS: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Sep 03). Lake areas may close to foil weeds. Hartford Courant, pp. B.1-B1. Retrieved from

#### **Full Text**

The state Department of Environmental Protection has given the town permission to cordon off two sections of Lake Williams infested with a weed that could destroy the popular lake in two years.

Lenny Tubbs, president of the Friends of Lake Williams, said he toured the lake Tuesday with Chuck Lee from the DEP water management bureau and other DEP officials. The meeting concluded, Tubbs said, with the DEP orally approving the request to cordon off two northeast sections of the lake by Lake Shore Drive. Written approval is expected in a week, Tubbs said.

Plans call for closing down a 250- by 250-foot section and a 200- by 150- foot area. Both are heavily infested with milfoil, a weed that spreads when it fragments. Tubbs has said boats fragment the weeds when they travel through the infested areas.

While touring the lake, which has an average depth of 9 feet, DEP officials predicted that the lake would be totally infested within two years, Tubbs said.

First Selectwoman Joyce Okonuk, who was heavily involved in completing the DEP application, is on vacation and did not attend Tuesday's meeting. Okonuk will be back to work next week, and, at that time, Tubbs said he plans to discuss how to pay for the floats and signs required to close the area.

The lake association and Okonuk had talked about using milk cartons to close the two areas, but the DEP rejected the idea. The town must purchase special floats and signage that meet DEP specifications, which will be detailed in the letter of approval. Okonuk said the selectmen have no money to pay for the floats and signs.

The association brought its plight to the board of finance last month. The meeting left the association with hope for help from the finance board, which rejected a board of selectmen request for money to help the lake during 1998-99 budget deliberations last winter. The town has \$100,000 to cover emergency and unanticipated expenditures it could tap for such situations.

Tubbs said the association does not expect the town or state to fund the entire project.

"We have a pretty strong group of friends for Lake Williams," he said. "We are planning fund-raisers such as a sale of pumpkins in October. We will be trying to raise some money on our own," Tubbs said, adding that the association, about 2 months old, now has more than 50 members.

Tubbs described the DEP's decision as a step in the right direction. The lake association is still waiting for the results of water tests being conducted by George Benson, a water analyst based in Newtown. Benson is expected to furnish results this month, Tubbs said.

After the test results are known, Tubbs said, the association will have a good idea of what must be done to remedy the problem and what it will cost. "Then



we will approach the selectmen and the finance board to see what type of help they can give us," Tubbs said.

Tubbs said various remedies were reviewed with DEP officials. The DEP is against harvesting the weeds because it could disrupt other plant life in the lake. Also, the state opposes a drawdown of the lake water. Tubbs said he was told a drawdown would be dangerous to the lake's ecology and could harm animals and fish that live in the lake.

"It is just a nasty, nasty weed," Tubbs said of the milfoil.

#### document 1 of 1



# CLOSING OF TWO LAKE WILLIAMS AREAS TO BE DELAYED: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Sep 14). Closing of two lake williams areas to be delayed. Hartford Courant, pp. B.1-B1. Retrieved from

#### **Full Text**

Plans to close two areas of Lake Williams infested with a fast-spreading weed will be delayed until at least next spring, the president of the lake's supporting organization said.

Lenny Tubbs, president of Friends of Lake Williams, said late last week that his organization would not cordon off the two areas infested with milfoil until next spring, at the earliest. A few weeks ago, the Department of Environmental Protection visited the popular recreational lake and verbally approved cordoning off the areas, which are on the northern end.

Closing the areas to boats and other types of watercraft will help prevent the weed from spreading to other parts of the lake, Tubbs said. Boats traveling through the area break up the weeds, the fragments of which regenerate into additional plants.

Tubbs said the DEP permit is good for three years and could be extended after that time. Written DEP approval has yet to reach First Selectmen Joyce Okonuk, she said late Friday.

Tubbs said he could delay shutting the areas because boat traffic on the lake is winding down for the year and the plant is entering a period of dormancy. Also figuring into the decision is uncertainty over where the association or town would get the money to buy buoys required to close the areas. The DEP has said the town must use specified buoys and signs, rather than the plastic milk cartons the association and town were hoping to use.

At this point, Tubbs said, it would be better to wait until the results of lab tests on the lake are made known by George Benson, of Benson Environmental Inc. of Newtown. Benson took a third weed sample a few weeks ago. Tubbs is expecting test results by the end of the month.

With the results, Benson could assemble a report on what must be done to stop the weed which, at its current growth rate, could consume the entire lake within two years. Benson could not be reached for comment Friday.

Rather than spend money on buoys and signs at this time of year, Tubbs said the money would be better spent fighting the weed. There are several ways to control or defeat the problem, including harvesting the weed, treating the lake with chemicals or stocking it with grass carp, which eat weeds. The test results should help determine which option is best for Lake Williams.

Tubbs said he plans to present the report and estimated cost to solve the problem to the board of selectmen, perhaps as early as next month.

Asked where the town would get the money for the work, Okonuk said Friday she had not yet looked into the matter. But, she said, the DEP has said no grants are available to pay for the work.

The Friends of Lake Williams realize the town may not have all the money for the work. Consequently, the group is making plans to hold a series of fundraisers. The first one is slated for Oct. 3, 4, 10 and 11 on the town green, where the organization plans to sell pumpkins and flowering mums.

#### document 1 of 1



### HERBICIDE TREATMENT SOUGHT FOR LAKE MILFOIL: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Sep 29). Herbicide treatment sought for lake milfoil. Hartford Courant, pp. B.5-B5. Retrieved from http://search.proquest.com/docview/256138152?accountid=46248

### Abstract (summary)

Leonard Tubbs, president of the group Friends of Lake Williams, told the board of selectmen Monday that a survey by aquatic biologist Gerald N. Smith concluded that the best way to control the feathery plant is to chemically treat the pond.

#### **Full Text**

The best way to combat the growth of milfoil in Lake Williams is with an herbicide that will cost almost \$11,000 for its initial application, according to an advocacy group.

Leonard Tubbs, president of the group Friends of Lake Williams, told the board of selectmen Monday that a survey by aquatic biologist Gerald N. Smith concluded that the best way to control the feathery plant is to chemically treat the pond.

The application of an herbicide widely used for several decades on many ponds and lakes across the country is being recommended for early next spring.

The selectmen asked Tubbs to come back with a written proposal and three quotes for the work. They would then decide whether to send the request to the board of finance for a special appropriation.

Approximately 34 acres of the 207-acre lake is infested with milfoil. The plant spreads when disrupted, such as when ripped by boat propellers and allowed to drift and re-root elsewhere. If left untreated, Tubbs said, state

environmentalists estimate the lake will be infested with the plant within two years.

document 1 of 1



### LAKE WILLIAMS AT CROSSROADS TOWN MUST DECIDE WHETHER TO PAY FOR WEED REMOVAL: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Oct 01). Lake williams at crossroads town must decide whether to pay for weed removal. Hartford Courant, pp. B.1-B1.

#### **Full Text**

It's crunch time on Lake Williams.

**Earlier** this week, the board of selectmen learned that it would cost roughly \$15,000 to combat the milfoil problem that is quickly turning the lake into a weedy, undesirable swamp.



During the summer of 1997, only a couple of acres were covered with the weed. As the 1998 boating season draws to a close, the weed covers some 34 acres of the lake. Within two years, according to the state Department of Environmental Protection, the entire lake will likely be covered with the weed, making swimming impossible and boating a problem.

For Leonard Tubbs, president of the newly formed Friends of Lake Williams, the time to act is now.

According to Tubbs, if the lake is to be treated with a chemical to kill the milfoil next May, the town needs to apply for a DEP permit in January. Any later, and the May time frame would likely be lost.

Also, there is the issue of money. The newly formed lake association can cover the \$150 application fee, but it will cost \$10,600 to treat the infested area next May with an herbicide and \$5,000 or so for a followup treatment. The association won't have that much on hand for at least two years, Tubbs said Tuesday.

"It will be hard to come up with money for next year's application. We have not been around long enough," Tubbs said.

If the town can come up with the money for the first two years, Tubbs believes the association can take it from there. The group is planning raffles, dinners, chicken barbecues and a dance, he said.

"We plan to be a self-sustaining organization," he said.

The organization would also like to charge a small user fee for boats that use the lake. He estimates that 500 to 600 boats use the lake each year. "We could raise some serious money by charging a nominal fee," he said.

Tubbs told the selectmen Monday night that the group has only \$1,500 to put toward the project. The rest of its money has gone into incorporating the group as a nonprofit organization. During the meeting, Selectman Robert Leone voiced support for the group's effort. George Bender, a water analyst from Newtown, also said the group has accomplished a lot.

The question now is whether the community will get behind the group's effort to save the lake. Tubbs said the group has about 60 members, mostly property

owners on the lake. Some people have resisted joining the group, remembering the reconstruction of the lake dam a few years ago that led to an assessment on lake property owners. The attitude of some property owners, Tubbs said, is to let the town fix the weed problem.

Tubbs said he will have a better idea Oct. 8 of whether the town will get involved, when his group takes the issue before the board of finance. The finance board will have to decide by December how much, if any, financial assistance to give the lake project. The money would have to come as a special appropriation from the budget.

Ronald Bender, chairman of the finance board, has said his group may have no choice but to help save the lake.

If the town doesn't help and the lake is lost, Bender said, it will certainly look like a lot of money was wasted on fixing the dam. And that might not sit very well with the folks assessed for the dam work, particularly since the special charge will continue for several more years.

#### document 1 of 1



# FINANCE BOARD SUPPORTS HERBICIDE FOR LAKE WILLIAMS: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Oct 12). Finance board supports herbicide for lake williams. Hartford Courant, pp. B.3-B3. Retrieved from http://search.proguest.com/docview/256129871?accountid=46248

### Abstract (summary)

The board of finance has voted to take money from the town contingency account to pay for killing weeds that are threatening to destroy Lake Williams.

The unanimous decision came after the board discussed the matter on Thursday with the Friends of Lake Williams, a newly formed lake association. The action is subject to voter approval at a town meeting to be set by the board of selectmen.

#### **Full Text**

The board of finance has voted to take money from the town contingency account to pay for killing weeds that are threatening to destroy Lake Williams.

The unanimous decision came after the board discussed the matter on Thursday with the Friends of Lake Williams, a newly formed lake association. The action is subject to voter approval at a town meeting to be set by the board of selectmen.

"It is clear that the group can't get organized to do something about it by next spring," said finance board Chairman Ronald Bender. Consequently, the board would like to get the project started. "In a year, we hope they can get their act together," Bender said.

Leonard Tubbs, president of the association, said the lowest of three bids, \$10,540, was received from Aquatic Control Technology Inc., a lake restoration company based in Sutton, Mass. The company will apply an herbicide to kill milfoil, a fast-spreading weed.

The weed now covers about 3 acres of the 207-acre lake.

A commitment from the town is needed to ensure enough time to secure a permit from the state Department of Environmental Protection and make preparations for treating the lake in May.

In a prepared statement, Tubbs said his organization "appreciates the very strong support the selectmen and board of finance have shown toward preserving the tremendous natural resource the town has in Lake Williams."

Tubbs said his organization has already spent close to \$5,000 on establishing itself. A water analysis cost \$3,500, he said. "We have put a lot of money and effort into getting the organization to grow," he added. Currently the organization is applying to the IRS for status as a nonprofit organization.

"We look forward to expanding our organization and continuing the strong partnership forged with the town officials for the mutual benefit of the town and residents of the lake," Tubbs said in the statement.

document 1 of 1



### VOTERS TO DECIDE ABOUT MONEY FOR WEED-KILLER IN LAKE WILLIAMS: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

Nevin, F., & Correspondent, C. (1998, Oct 16). Voters to decide about money for weed-killer in lake williams. Hartford Courant, pp. B.5-B5. Retrieved from

#### **Full Text**

**Voters** will soon decide whether the town should spend \$10,700 to kill weeds in **Lake** Williams and if the police should be allowed to issue tickets for vehicles **parked** in fire lanes.

The board of selectmen Thursday set a town meeting for Oct. 26, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium at Lyman Memorial High School, 917 Exeter Road.

The vote on whether to spend money to treat Lake Williams will culminate a three-month effort by the Friends of Lake Williams to convince the town to help eliminate a weed known as milfoil. The weed, common in many New England lakes, covers about three acres of the 207-acre lake. If nothing is done to stop the weed's growth, state environmentalists predict that it will cover the entire lake within two years.



The project is supported by the selectmen and the board of finance. Finance Board Chairman Ronald Bender has said he believes the town has no choice but to help control the weeds since so much money was spent repairing the lake's dam system.

The money would come from the town's emergency and contingency account.

The fire lane ordinance is something local police have been requesting. They complain that while there are designated fire lanes around town, police don't have the authority to issue a ticket to violators. Consequently, police requests for violators to move are often ignored.

The proposed ordinance, which the selectmen adopted before setting the town meeting date, also establishes where fire lanes must be located around public and private buildings. A copy of the proposal is available in the town clerk's office.

Also up for consideration is a proposal to increase the Community Center's budget by \$9,000 to pay for repairs to the town pool. Repairs, which are under way, are needed to the pool's backwash system, which is leaking.

Also up for a vote will be a transfer of \$25,000 from the capital reserve account to the board of education to cover work on the technical education room at the high school.

#### LEBANON

### Money For Lake Williams Approved

By FREDERICK NEVIN
Courant Correspondent

LEBANON — Town voters on Monday endorsed spending \$10,700 to fight a fast-spreading weed that is threatening to turn Lake Williams into a swamp.

The money would be used to treat infested areas with a herbicide. The voice vote by some 250 residents in the Lyman Memorial High School auditorium came after some 30 minutes of discussion about the condition of the lake and milfoil, a dense, fast-spreading weed that has wreaked havoc in lakes throughout New England the past two decades.

The approval puts the town in position to apply for a permit from the state Department of Environmental Protection to treat the infestation with a herbicide that will kill the weed, which covers approximately 35 to 40 acres of the lake.

The work, which would take place in late April or early May, would be done by Aquatic Controls Inc. of Sutton, Mass. Currently, the company is treating nearby Red Cedar Lake for milfoil. The company is highly regarded by the DEP

and the state approves of the chemical treatment, which is harmless to fish, according to the DEP.

Lenny Tubbs, president of the newly formed Friends of Lake Williams, told the audience that his group looked at the alternatives and, by far, chemical treatment was the cheapest. "The others we could never afford," he said.

He said lake property owners have tried pulling out the milfoil by hand, but with no results. He asked the group to work together to save the lake, which he described as beautiful as any in the state.

After the vote, First Selectwoman Joyce Okonuk said voters took the right action. Beyond the single treatment, she said, the town must look to preserving Lake Williams and its other natural assets. While money to manage the weed problem beyond the initial treatment may not appear in next year's town operating budget, she said, the time has come when a long-term lake management plan needs to be developed.

In other action, voters also adopted a fire lane ordinance that gives local police the power to issue tickets to motorists who park in a fire lane. The penalty is a \$32 fine and comes at a time when abuse of fire lane restrictions is at an all-time high in town, according to Okonuk. The ordinance will become law in about 15 days, Okonuk said.



LEBANON

Oct 26,1998

### Fate Of Lake Weeds To Be Decided

By FREDERICK NEVIN
Courant Correspondent

LEBANON – Whether or not the town should spend \$10,700 to kill weeds that are threatening Lake Williams will be decided tonight by residents at a town meeting.

The weed, milfoll, has spread over the last few summers from a few patches to covering nearly three acres of the lake. Friends of Lake Williams, a newly formed lake association, has proposed using an herbidde.

The \$10,700 would cover a full treatment of the weeds next May

and would be paid from the town's contingency account. The project has support from the board of selectmen and the board of finance.

Ronald Bender, the finance board chairman, suggested that the town must approve the treatment or face the possibility tht money spent on fixing the dam on Lake Williams a few years ago will be wasted.

Friends of Lake Williams, which has been in existence for only a few months, does not have the money for the project. Eventually, the group plans to take over management of the weeds.

The Department of Environmental Protection has said milfoil will take over the lake in two years if the plant's growth is not stopped next spring.

Also at tonight's meeting, which is at 8 p.m. at the Lyman Memorial High School auditorium, voters will be asked to consider an ordinance that establishes fines for motorists who parking in fire lanes. The town has an ordinance establishing fire lanes, but no fines to support it. As a result, motorists have not paid attention to the fire lane law, according to the selectmen, who are pushing for the new ordinance.

Other major expenditures voters will be asked to consider include:

- Releasing \$25,000 from the capital reserve and non-recurring expenses fund to the board of education for construction of the techeducation facility at the middle school.
- Increasing the Community Center budget by \$9,000 from the contingency account to cover repairs to the community swimming pool. The money is for replacement of the pool's backwash system that malfunctioned this past summer.

document 1 of 1



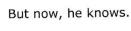
## ADVOCATES FOR 1 LAKE SEEK PROTECTION FOR THE REST IN TOWN: [4S EASTERN EDITION]

DEBORAH, P. S. (1999, May 14). Advocates for 1 lake seek protection for the town. Hartford Courant, pp. B.1-B1. Retrieved from

#### **Full Text**

Petersen Swift covers the towns of Lebanon and Columbia and the environment and outdoor topics in eastern Connecticut. She welcomes suggestions for this column and can be reached at (860) 647- 5360. She is also environment at dswift@courant.com or at The Hartford Courant, 200 Manchester, CT 06040.

Tubbs had spent lots of time in watersheds, but he little about ways to protect them.



"That area, for a lack of better word, is so volatile," said Tubbs, who last year helped form Friends of Lake Williams, a group that looks out for the welfare of the lake.

Fertilizers from yards, runoff from roads and other pollution can severely damage a lake, he said.

Tubbs and his fellow members have learned plenty about lake protection since creating their group. Now, they want to share what they know, and help ensure that caring for Lake Williams and other bodies of water in Lebanon becomes a long-term project.

Several Friends members lobbied the Lebanon Board of Selectmen this week to form an advisory group for all the lakes in town. The group would share information, and discuss possible long-term management plans for the lakes.

"I think it's important for all the lakes of Lebanon to have representation," Tubbs said. "We want to share information and educate the public," he said.

The idea of forming a townwide group is an outgrowth of the work planned for Lake Williams.

The town, which owns land on Lake Williams and controls the dam, is spending \$10,700 to treat the weed problem there.

The selectmen want to make sure the money is well-spent and the weeds don't come back, but they also want to ensure that other lakes stay healthy, said First Selectwoman Joyce R. Okonuk. The town's proposed plan of development being reviewed by the planning and zoning commission emphasizes the need to protect open space, and preserving lakes is part of that, she said.

Besides Lake Williams, bodies of water connected to the town include Amston Lake, Red Cedar Lake, Brewster Pond and a handful of other ponds.

Selectman Robert A. Leone stressed that any panel should be advisory, and not be able to force a management plan on the lake associations.

Tubbs agreed, adding that the sharing of information may prompt residents of the other lakes to create long-term management plans.

Robert Hathaway of Vernon, who lives at Lake Williams part of the year, pulled out piles of available literature on lake monitoring at the meeting and put it on the table. "I think you should look at it from a townwide perspective," he said.

In the end, the selectmen asked Tubbs to notify the various lake associations to guage their interest in forming such a group. If so, a date will be set for a "roundtable discussion," Okonuk said.





