

Environmental Report  
June 2018

As has been published on the HVPOA web site, the 2017 water quality test results showed Lower Beech Pond's water quality to be very good. E.coli readings were very low, the pH level was within acceptable standards, and the clarity of the water was excellent. To ensure that the quality of Lower Beech Pond is maintained, we should continue efforts to stabilize beach areas and prevent storm water runoff from steep slopes. Home owners should continue to maintain septic systems and have them pumped regularly.

I attended the annual Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) conference in Concord on May 19. It provided an opportunity to review water sampling techniques and hear various presentations including one about the increased conductivity (i.e., salt) in New Hampshire's lakes and ponds. While Lower Beech Pond tested within a low range for NH lakes, the trend for Lower Beech Pond and NH as a whole is toward increasing salt. The primary culprits are salt on roadways and parking lots. In an effort to decrease the amount of salt entering our water bodies, the state is encouraging snow plow operators to complete the Green Snow Pro certification program. This program works to help snow plow operators make the most efficient use of any salt that is used which should make it cheaper to plow and better for the environment.

I am hoping to conduct water sampling in June, July, and August this year though this will depend upon the availability of appropriate water craft. At this date, I am still trying to line up boats for the sampling.