

# Lake News

May 2018

## A newsletter for concerned residents of Pickerel Lake

A road fund for the North end of Lakeview drive was established Fall 2014. Seventeen residents (North of Pickerel Dr.) contributed to this fund. Presently there is **\$4,017.22** is in this fund. This money is available for improvements to the road, if anyone has any ideas on the best use of this money let me know.

At least **\$100/property** is recommended from all property owners North of Pickerel Road to add to the "road fund".

Thank you for your contribution.

## 2018-2019 WINTER DRAW DOWN

A formal letter was sent to the Town of Colchester (attached) to request a 2018/2019 winter draw down (3 feet) of Pickerel Lake. The Town has to formally request this action to the DEEP. The DEEP would approve (or deny) this request. If approved, the lake level would likely begin to drop on:

**01 November 2018.**

The frontage owners are responsible for this cost:

An approximate rate (for this service): \$60-\$70/hour (approximately 30 hours)

Winter draw downs are cost efficient methods to suppress weed growth. During a draw down the lake level drops as much as 3 feet. Aquatic weed beds are exposed throughout the winter. As many residents recall, Pickerel Lake had a milfoil infestation. The milfoil is an invasive aquatic weed that plagued Pickerel Lake for two decades (1990's to 2012). Variable-leaf milfoil is amongst the most invasive of ALL invasive aquatic weeds. Until it is totally eradicated from the lake, it still poses a threat to proliferate again.

For further questions or comments, please contact Bill Dopirak (860)334-1271 or [wdopirak@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:wdopirak@trcc.commnet.edu)





# *Town of Colchester, Connecticut*

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

[www.colchesterct.gov](http://www.colchesterct.gov)

May 23, 2018

Commissioner Rob Klee  
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Pickerel Lake Drawdown Request, Winter of 2018-2019

Dear Commissioner Klee,

The Town of Colchester has received a request from the Pickerel Lake Association, to send a "Letter of Request" to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, requesting a three (3) foot drawdown of Pickerel Lake during the 2018-2019 Winter. (see attached)

The Association has justified their request for a three (3) foot drawdown, in order for weed control and to enable residents to secure their frontages. The Pickerel Lake Association is formally recognized as an association and the Town has made previous drawdown requests on behalf of the association.

As the Association has previously done, they will inform all shoreline and downstream property owners of the approved drawdown schedule by written correspondence, communication at their regularly scheduled association meetings and through the Association's quarterly newsletter. The Pickerel Lake Association shall be responsible for all costs associated with the draw.

Town Environmental staff shall again work with the President of the Pickerel Lake Association, Mr. William Dopirak Jr., to monitor the conditions of the drawdown. Dissolved oxygen levels, temperature and other data during drawdown shall be recorded by Mr. Dopirak. Drawdown data from previous drawdowns of the lake is attached.

Should you require any additional information concerning this request, please contact Jay Gigliotti of my staff at (860) 537-7283. Thank you very much for your consideration in this request.

Very Truly Yours,

Art Shilosky

First Selectman

Town of Colchester