



**Please join the Lake St. Catherine Association.**

**Your support helps improve the quality of the lake!**

Each year, the Lake St. Catherine Association (LSCA) reaches out to the lake community asking for contributions to help fund our programs in support of our mission: the preservation, protection and maintenance of Lake St. Catherine. Your contributions, donations, state and local government funding and grants all contribute to our yearly budget.

The LSCA works year-round on our lake management programs, some of which include: Lake Wise / stormwater runoff & pollution control, water testing, lake safety, milfoil control, boat launch monitoring (Greeter program) / aquatic invasive species education & prevention.

We hope you'll join us and offer your support in 2021!

**Contributions to Lake St. Catherine Association may qualify as charitable contributions!** LSCA is an approved public charity and is exempt from Federal Income Tax under §501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to LSCA (beyond dues) may now be deductible under §170 of the code. LSCA is also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under §§2055, 2106 or 2522 of the code.



## 2021 Membership Application

### 2021 Dues Schedule

Cottage owner	\$100 per cottage
Business Sponsor	\$200
Unimproved lot owner (no dwelling)	\$50
Supporter of Lake St. Catherine (family members of property owners, renters, recreators)	\$35

Contributions to the LSCA in excess of the annual dues qualify as charitable contributions and may be tax deductible!

**Many employers have a matching program for charitable contributions - we encourage you to check into this!**

(LSCA is an approved public charity under §501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.)

Please complete this form and send along with your check payable to **Lake St. Catherine Association** to:

**Elaine Bagley, Treasurer**  
48 West Mountain Road  
Bernardston MA 01337

DUES AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lake 911 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lake Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you receive mail at this address?     YES     NO

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Permanent Phone:: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how/where you would like to receive information from LSCA:

Email Address     Permanent Address     Lake 911 Address

**Membership dues and contributions can now be made online at: [lakestcatherine.org](http://lakestcatherine.org)**



## 2020 LSCA Year In Review

At the end of each season, we like to take some time to present a recap of what we've done for Lake St. Catherine on behalf of the lake community and our membership. 2020 was a year like no other, filled with uncertainty...

As the COVID-19 pandemic progressed, we wondered if we'd be able to perform any of our planned lake management projects this year. We were extremely concerned about the safety of our contractors, our Greeters, our volunteers, and our Trustees (and our families and friends). Would we lose a large portion of our funding? Even if we had sufficient funding, would we be able to safely perform the tasks needed to implement our lake management programs?

Our best laid plans at the beginning of the year were upended as we began to hear about grants that we had earned possibly being canceled - and some of them were. Tough decisions were made and we revised our budget to prioritize our programs and projects that would have the most impact for LSC. Thankfully, most of our canceled grant funding was reinstated, and we were able to safely implement the majority of our 2020 plan. This is certainly not the year we planned for, but we were happy with what we were able to accomplish.

## Highlights

**Grants:** As we headed into 2020, we were energized by knowing we had earned Lake St. Catherine approximately \$65,000 in grants from the State Of Vermont and the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) to help fund projects like the Greeter Program, our Milfoil Control Program, and Lake Wise. As mentioned previously, some of these were canceled when COVID-19 hit, but were thankfully reinstated late in the season.

**Membership:** As anticipated, membership was down this year. We know and understand that many businesses were impacted by the pandemic, and some of you were laid off or lost hours at your job. A sincere THANK YOU to everyone who was able to contribute to the LSCA and become a member this year. We ended the season with 346 members, down slightly from 350 last year. We hope to break the 350 mark in 2021 as we continue to reach out to LSC property owners, and hope to expand our reach with membership levels for family members of property owners, renters, and those who use the lake for recreation. We hope to earn your support for our 2021, and that you can spread the word with your neighbors.

**Communicating With The Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund (LSCCF) On The Health Of Little Lake:** We invite you to read the full text of our Year In Review on our Blog which recounts our year of communicating with the LSCCF. These efforts resulted in partnering on 2 projects in 2021: expanding the Lake Wise Program to Little Lake and milfoil control. If you'd like to be part of the Lake Wise Program in 2021, email us at [info@lakestcatherine.org](mailto:info@lakestcatherine.org). Soon, we'll also provide details on how you can help make the 3 year milfoil control plan in Little Lake a success with donations and elbow grease.

**Boat Launch Monitoring - Greeter Program:** Our Greeters have been trained to identify invasive species to stop them from entering LSC at the boat launch in Wells. They are on duty from Memorial Day through Labor Day - working on Friday, Saturday and Sunday and on holidays and during fishing tournaments. They also educate boaters about the importance of looking for these invasives on their boat or trailer so they are not spread to LSC or another lake. In 2020, we again expanded their hours and launched a pilot program at the State Park in Poultney.

**Milfoil Control:** On 6/24/20, three areas on LSC totaling 18.3 acres were treated with ProcellaCOR, representing a 52% reduction in the amount of acres that were treated in 2019. Two areas were in the northern end of the lake in North Bay and Lily Pond, the other area was in the Channel south of the bridge. These treatments were very successful. Our diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH) team began their work on June 27th. This season, the DASH team worked in 10 areas, totaling 38.7 acres. This represents a 42% reduction in the amount of acres that were DASH'd in 2019. In these DASH areas, the milfoil was very sparse. Although they worked approximately the same amount of hours as in 2019, they only harvested 132 buckets (17.5 gallons per bucket) of milfoil. In 2019, 1,293 buckets were harvested. This is excellent news, and an amazing statistic which illustrates decreasing milfoil levels.



**8th Annual Boat Parade:** As with our other lake activities, we were concerned about putting on the Boat Parade this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. We wanted to continue this yearly tradition, but we wanted to make sure that we could do it safely. We removed the judging stations and instead decided to post an online poll asking the lake community to vote for your favorite boats. Photos were taken of all participants during the parade, and the online poll was posted - and a winner was selected in each of our 4 categories. We hope you enjoyed the parade!

**Annual Meeting:** Each July, we look forward to getting our membership together for our Annual Meeting & Dinner at the Lake St. Catherine Country Club. The LSCA Trustees present reports from their committees, and we get to share an excellent dinner with our lake neighbors. It was very disappointing that we were unable to do that this year. But, we still had a lot of important information to share with our membership and the lake community, so we held a Virtual Annual Meeting on July 25th. You can view a recording of the Annual Meeting on our website Blog. We are keeping our fingers crossed that we can have an in-person Annual Meeting & Dinner next summer.

**Dockside Chats:** We had plans to set up small 'neighborhood' designations for areas around the lake and have a captain in each area invite interested neighbors and a LSCA Trustee for small group lake meetings. Obviously, COVID-19 made this project impossible to begin in 2020. But, we wanted to find some way to have safe face-to-face interactions with members which led to setting up Dockside Chats. Our idea was to have a LSCA Trustee visit you at your dock via the lake and have a socially distanced chat about the lake. We are glad to say this was a popular program with about 15 Dockside Chats scheduled. We hope to do it again next year - along with our neighborhood program.

**The Lake Wise Program:** WOW - what a year for Lake Wise! 11 properties on Lake St. Catherine earned the Lake Wise Award in 2020. Lake Wise is a program developed by Vermont's Lakes and Ponds Program to recognize outstanding efforts by homeowners who live along a lakeshore to protect the water quality and habitat along the shoreline and within the near-shore area of the lake. The goal of the Lake Wise program, from the Lake Wise website: "The goal of Lake Wise is to establish a new normal, a new culture of lakeshore landscaping that is proven to help protect the lake. A property that earns the Lake Wise Award will represent a 'model' shoreland property. The Lake Wise Award certifies a property is well managed, using shoreland Best Management Practices, and is maintained to care for the lake." In partnership with the Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD) and property owners around the lake, the Lake Wise program was a huge success in 2020. A LCBP grant helped to fund both property assessments, native plantings, and stormwater runoff projects on individual property owner's shorelines. Building on the work in 2018 and 2019 led to the success of the program in 2020 - and this brings the total Lake Wise properties on LSC to 12. Our goal is to earn another 10 awards in 2021, and get our first for a Little Lake property owner. We are excited to expand this program into Little Lake and work with the LSCCF on implementing it - email us at [info@lakestcatherine.org](mailto:info@lakestcatherine.org) if you'd like to participate!

**New Website:** In early December, we launched our new website at [lakestcatherine.org](http://lakestcatherine.org). You'll immediately notice a new design, new & updated pages, and lots of new photos and content. Along with the new look, and all the new LSC related information we've added, there are a bunch of new features we'll be able to offer members and visitors. We'll continue to update the site over the winter, and we'll let you know as we roll out these new website features.

## Looking Ahead To 2021

We have ambitious plans for 2021 - and not enough room here to expand on them all (check out our website for full details), but they include: Increasing our membership, working with the LSCCF and expanding our milfoil control and Lake Wise Programs into Little Lake, earning a grant for - and beginning work on - a LSC Watershed Action Plan (a 10 year plan to prioritize restoration and protection strategies for the lake), and expanding our Greeter Program hours, including a full season at the State Park.

We hope you find that our efforts in 2020 for Lake St. Catherine have been worthy. It's been a difficult year, but we are proud of what we were able to accomplish under the circumstances. As we look forward to 2021 - with new projects, and new partnerships - we promise to continue our work for the betterment of Lake St. Catherine.

Please keep yourself healthy and be well. We hope to see you at the lake soon. - The Trustees of The LSCA