

Lake Willoughby Greeter Program and Milfoil Management 2025 Final Report

Our Greeter season ran from Memorial Day to Labor Day. We covered the boat access 5 days a week in May and June and had a 7-day schedule for July and August. We had 8 Greeters in the program. All Greeters and Staff took in person or online training with Kim Jensen of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation.

We inspected 1,996 watercraft, 39 were wake boats. 185 boats had plant material removed by our Greeters; 29 had invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil removed. There was a notable amount of native Pondweed removed as well. Our Greeter Program is one of the busiest in Vermont and is essential to keeping Lake Willoughby free of invasive species and protecting other bodies of water.

Swampguana Diving Services suction harvested aquatic invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil starting in July and will continue their efforts through October. They removed Milfoil from the Boat Launch, Crescent Beach, Gallagher's Cabins, NE Shoreline/Willoughvale, NW Shoreline/North Beach and Gray Rock to the Boat Launch. No other invasive species were reported so far. The Milfoil Management Program results from previous years show a significant yearly reduction in the spread of invasive Milfoil and the importance it has for aquatic nuisance control in Lake Willoughby.

Thanks to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and with the help of the Memphremagog Watershed Association, the Town of Westmore received a grant award amount of \$28,877. The Greeter Program receives \$19,564 and \$9,313 goes to the Milfoil Management Program. The Westmore Association provides \$11,000 for the Greeter Program.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Katherine Busby

Westmore Association Lake Willoughby Greeter Program Coordinator