

The Lake Cochituate Watershed Council invites you to attend:

## A Free Educational Celebration of Lake Cochituate

Be a Part of the Future!

Come for the day or just one session

Keynote Speaker #1:

*Mike Lowery*

### *Consensus Strategies for Invasive Species Management*

Mike will speak to building consensus on a *Whole Lake Plan* for invasive species control and management

Keynote Speaker #2:

*Gay Gillespie*

### *Watershed Organizations – Common Challenges and Strategies For Success*

### *Workshops:*

*Stormwater and What We Can Do About It* --Nancy Bryant

*Sustainable Backyards –How Homeowners Can Eliminate Toxic Chemicals From their Backyard Diet and Establish Wildlife Diversity*

--Risa Edelstein

*The Weed Removal Project: How it Works* --Mike Lowery, Carole Berkowitz

*The Johnson School Story* – Kathy Branagan, Jennifer Takasaki, and Kathy Lee

*Saving Turtles and Amphibians* – Emily Norton and Jennifer Pettit

*Critical Issues Facing our Massachusetts Lakes and Ponds* -- Tom Flannery and Jim Straub

**Lake Cochituate Watershed Council** <[lcwcs.org](http://lcwcs.org)>. Is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. In 2010 The LCWC received a grant from the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund to sponsor the first annual LCWC Symposium. It is also the applicant in a proposal recently presented to the Conservation Commissions of Framingham, Natick, and Wayland to enable abutters to purchase hand-pulling and DASH Boat services to remove Eurasian Water Milfoil from their lakefront property.



**Lake Cochituate Watershed Council**

Respect and Restore

A 501 (c)(3) Nonprofit Tx Ex #: 320-303-380

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### *About some of our speakers and presenters:*

**Mike Lowery** is a member of the [Wayland Surface Water Quality Committee](#). WSWQC has organized programs for invasives control in Wayland's great ponds using hand-harvesting, DASH, barriers, herbicide, and nutrient controls. Mike is the author of a proposal to enable Lake Cochituate abutters to purchase handpulling and DASH boat services to remove Eurasian Water Milfoil from the lake. Mike has lived on the shores of Lake Cochituate and Dudley Pond for thirty years.

**Kathy Branagan, Jennifer Takasaki, and Kathy Lee** are key founders of the Johnson School Outdoor Classroom. They mobilized students, teachers and parents to restore the local woodlands and green space around the School by removing invasives and planting the landscape with native shrubs and flowering plants. They built a community raised-bed garden for each class in the school, and installed water-saving devices such as rain barrels.

**Nancy Bryant** is the [Executive Director of the SuAsCo \(Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River\) Watershed Community Council](#), a non-profit coalition of businesses, municipalities, state/federal and regional government, and environmental organizations. Nancy, often referred to as the "voice of the SuAsCo", was instrumental in launching the Council over 14 years ago. The Council organized the "River Visions" conferences. Nancy created the "Stormwater Matters Program" outreach materials for municipal, business, school, and residential audiences.

**Risa Edelstein** is President of the Ecological Landscaping Association. She is a highly regarded landscape architect and has designed sustainable landscapes throughout the area. She studied landscape design at the Landscape Institute of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University and is a certified Massachusetts Arborist, an accredited NOFA organic land care professional.

**Jim Straub and Tom Flannery** coordinate the Massachusetts Lakes and Ponds Program (Department of Conservation and Recreation – DCR). As top authorities on the environmental issues affecting our waters, including invasive species and nonpoint source pollution, they help municipalities and environmental organizations develop coordinated water quality issues and projects.

**Pat Conaway** is a retired teacher and the founder of [Big Heart Little Feet](#), an organization to help others and leave small footprints on the earth. Pat has organized neighbors and volunteers to clean-up local waterways and trails and he established *Trail Work Tuesday and Wednesdays* in Natick. Throughout Natick, Framingham, Wayland, and Cochituate State Park Pat has installed and maintained "buddy bins" to collect recycleables. He also works with environmental clubs at Natick and Framingham HS to organize clean-ups, storm drain markings, rain garden projects and other initiatives. Pat serves on the Natick Open Space Advisory Committee, and was nominated for Mass Recycles "Massachusetts Recycler of the Year Award." He is a co-founder of the Lake Cochituate Watershed Council.

**Carole Berkowitz** is a retired Special Ed Teacher and the Chair of [Protect Our Water Resources \(POWR\)](#), a citizens group that works to protect Natick's drinking water supply (the aquifers lie beneath Lake Cochituate). For the past decade POWR has worked to find alternatives to herbicides to deal with invasive weeds in the Lake. Recently, POWR and the Natick Conservation Commission received a Partnership Matching Grant from the MADCR to hire a DASH boat to remove milfoil from a five-acre area in Middle Pond. Carole is a co-founder of the Lake Cochituate Watershed Council.

**Emily Norton and Jennifer Pettit** are active members of [Friends of Willard Brook](#), <[willardbrook.org](http://willardbrook.org)> and specialize in vernal pools and saving turtles and other amphibians. Recently they received a grant to establish a turtle fence along Rte 27 along the Sudbury River flood plain (a notorious "death alley" for turtles). They have saved hundreds of amphibians and engage young people in their work. Jennifer is a board member of the Ecological Landscaping Association and member of the Townsend Conservation Commission. Emily teaches environmental science at Wayland High School.

**Gay Gillespie** is Executive Director of the [Westport River Watershed Alliance](#) a nonprofit organization founded in 1976 to restore, protect, celebrate, and sustain the natural resources of the Westport River and its 100-square mile watershed in Southeastern MA. In her 27 year tenure Gay has successfully developed partnerships with town boards, educators, and the watershed community to implement effective stormwater solutions and education programs. Gay has served on Westport's Open Space Committee and Estuaries Committee.



## *Second Annual LCWC Spring Symposium*

Focusing on the  
*Lake Cochituate Watershed*

**Saturday, March 12, 2011  
Natick Town Hall  
8:30 am — 3 pm**

**Coffee / Registration: at 8:30 am**

No Registration Fee required  
Box Lunch Provided