



The Lake Harvey Association



| Winter 2019

Welcome to fall, and cool (temperature also!) foliage!

By

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Lake lowering will begin the week following Columbus Day weekend.

Welcome to fall, and cool (temperature also!) foliage!

Although during the public meeting regarding the dam project last summer (2018) it was announced that no longer would our lake be lowered in the fall – an annual action that remains unapproved by the state – the Barnet Selectboard decided at its September 9th meeting it would determine a lowering date.

Upon learning that date would be our Barnet foliage weekend, rather than the past years' agreed upon time of after Columbus Day weekend, we requested at the September 23rd meeting that if lowering is to be reinstated, the time frame remain as in previous years. The Selectboard agreed that would be fine.

Feedback would be appreciated from our members as to this ongoing annual event.

The original reason for the lowering was to allow dock work to be done more easily, during a two week period, and the stop boards then replaced (all in) for the rest of the year, except to compensate for weather events as they came along.

Last year the two boards removed in 2017 were never replaced, and remained out the entire summer, and then winter, until July of 2018. The lake was low the entire 2018 summer season, although the beavers as usual assisted in maintaining boating access. Debris accumulated in the stop board opening, and professional services were required to clear the debris in order to be able to replace the boards in the main opening and the fish ladder channel as well. We have not had a weather event requiring removal of any boards over this summer, and without much rain, the level has been somewhat low the last month or more. (Sufficiently low, and the weather and water sufficiently warm, for dock repair to take place.)

Should the dam replacement project come to fruition, obviously there will be no stop boards to remove or replace. The level will naturally rise and fall over the rock structure and its overflow section as rain comes and goes. The height of the new structure is to be set at the crest of the current dam height, so with all boards in place since July, this summer's fluctuations of water level would be likely typical, assuming weather conditions remain similar. The question is, in the meantime, do we still wish to lower the water level in the fall? Lowering earlier does not work, as boaters cannot then utilize the boat access, or are stuck at their docks. And many lake residents enjoy boating throughout fall foliage and the Columbus Day holiday weekend, with family and friends and company. Do any of us in fact work on our docks after that? Do we wish to continue lowering the lake annually for that reason?

Please email your thoughts on the subject to me at: karlacornelius@comcast.net.

Thanks, and enjoy our autumn's glorious colors.....