

2019 Pipe and North Pipe Lake Clean Boats Clean Water Summary

During the 2019 lake season there are several programs that are carried out in the effort to keep our lakes healthy. First, this year our landing monitors, Amber Swazey and Butch Knight logged a total of 521.5 hours at the landing talking to people about Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and inspecting their boats and trailers prior to entering our lakes. A total of 451 boats entered our lakes from fishing opener to September 8th, which was up slightly from past years. Accompanying these boats were 1230 (up slightly) who all heard the message that Amber and Butch were delivering about AIS. Some 354 boats were contacted previously at either our landing or another landing and received the message and had their boats inspected.

As a result of our efforts and the efforts of other landing monitors, Amber and Butch found that 100 % of all boats entering our lakes were weed free. This is a LARGE step in preventing AIS from entering our lakes.

Most everyone was very cooperative with our monitors and took an extra few minutes to answer the monitor's questions and have their boat inspected. We had only 8 people that were uncooperative and did not want to answer any questions.

Also, 116 boats were used in another lake within 5 days of entering our lake. This is important for two reasons. First, 5 days is the limit when various types of AIS can survive out of water. And secondly, most of the other lakes in our area contain one or more varieties of AIS. This triggers our monitors to take a closer look.

Another water quality program this year is the underwater surveillance of both the north and south ends of Pipe Lake which continued again this year. Matt Berg, a marine biologist, dons his scuba gear and performs this underwater inspection once a month from May through October. Once a year, usually in June or July, he travels underwater and inspects the entire shoreline of both Pipe and North Pipe Lake. This second line of defense helps ensure that no exotics gain a foothold in our lakes.

This report has been compiled by Dick Hollar - 2019