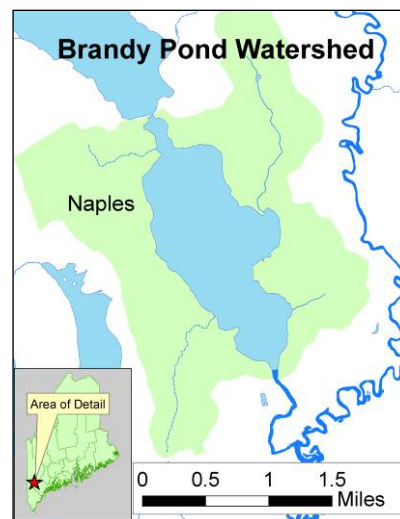


Brandy Pond Watershed Survey

#2008PP08

Waterbody Name: Brandy Pond (Bay of Naples)
Location: Naples, Cumberland County
Waterbody Status: NPS Priority Watershed, Most at Risk
Project Grantee: Cumberland County SWCD
Project Duration: March 2008 – September 2009
604(b) Grant Amount: \$12,870
Local Match: \$5,904



PROBLEM:

Brandy Pond (also known as the Bay of Naples) has a surface area of 733 acres and a watershed area of 3.6 square miles. Brandy Pond is connected to Long Lake by the Naples swing bridge and causeway and to the Songo River and Sebago Lake by the Songo locks. Since Brandy Pond lies at the center of this popular 35-mile-long corridor, it experiences heavy boat traffic throughout the summer. Brandy Pond's shoreline is fringed with 204 seasonal and year-round homes, two commercial marinas and several businesses, and the watershed includes a golf course and numerous businesses along Route 302.

The Maine DEP and Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) have tested Brandy Pond's water quality since 1976. This testing indicates that the bottom waters of the lake experience moderate oxygen depletion, which can limit the pond's coldwater fish habitat. Because of this stress on the fishery and substantial development in the watershed, LEA rates Brandy Pond as a moderate to high degree of concern. In addition to its water quality monitoring program on the pond, LEA helps watershed residents address erosion problems through its *Clean Lake Check-Up* program.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of the project was to identify, document and prioritize soil erosion sites in the Brandy Pond watershed. Survey methods were based on those outlined in the DEP publication, *Citizen's Guide to Lake Watershed Surveys*. Letters were sent to roughly 800 watershed landowners notifying them of the survey and inviting their participation in the project. Due to the lower than expected number of local volunteers, project staff enlisted the University of Southern Maine's Soil and Water Engineering class to help with the survey.



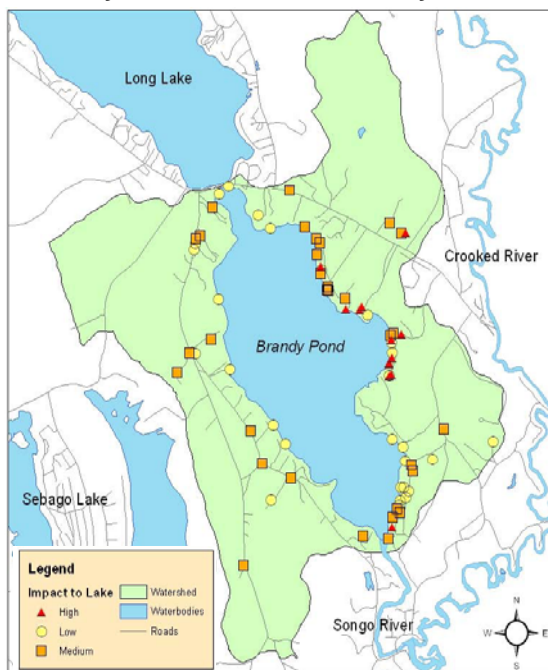
Winter sand and shoulder erosion

Sixteen USM students and five local volunteers were trained in survey methods prior to the survey. The watershed survey was held on April 19, 2009. Most of the watershed was surveyed that day, and technical staff checked their work throughout the summer. Survey data was summarized in the *Brandy Pond Watershed Survey Report*. Survey reports were distributed to town officials and posted on the Cumberland County SWCD website (www.cumberlandswcd.org).

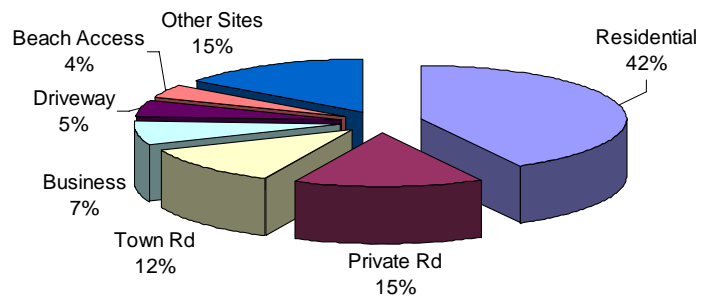
PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Project staff and volunteers surveyed the entire Brandy Pond watershed and documented 73 erosion sites. Most identified sites were associated with residential areas (42%), private roads (15%) and town roads (12%).
- The *Brandy Pond Watershed Survey Report* was completed in September 2009. The report summarizes watershed survey findings and lists specific descriptions and recommendations for identified sites.
- The project led to a new partnership with the University of Southern Maine. The watershed survey fit in well with the USM course and provided a real-world opportunity for students to apply their knowledge. Student assistance was also invaluable and helped complete the survey as planned.

Brandy Pond Watershed Survey Sites



Percentages of Identified Erosion Sites by Land Use



PROJECT PARTNERS:

Lakes Environmental Association
Portland Water District
University of Southern Maine
Town of Naples

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Suggested Citation:

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