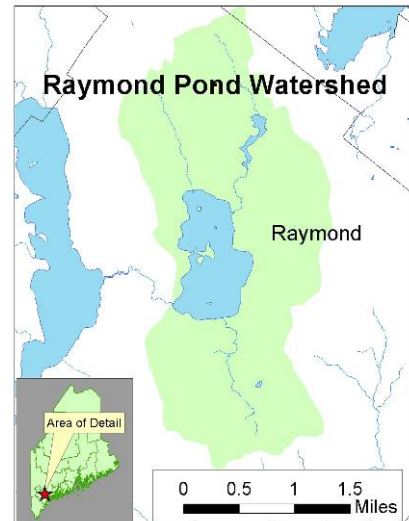


Raymond Pond Conservation Project

#2007RR02

Waterbody Name: Raymond Pond
Location: Raymond – Cumberland County
Waterbody Status: NPS Priority Watershed, Most at Risk
Project Sponsor: Town of Raymond
Project Duration: April 2007 – March 2010
319 Grant Amount: \$54,238
Local Match: \$95,363



PROBLEM:

Raymond Pond has a surface area of 346 acres and a 4.4 square mile watershed. Raymond Pond is developed with over 175 seasonal and year-round homes. It is the largest of five ponds that drains into Crescent Lake, which then flows into Panther Pond and Sebago Lake, a public drinking water source for over 45,000 households in Southern Maine.

Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) has monitored the pond since 1974, and the data shows significant depletion of dissolved oxygen in the deep areas of the pond in late summer. In 1999 the Raymond Conservation Commission spearheaded an independent watershed survey and identified 71 erosion sites. From 2001 – 2004, Cumberland County SWCD conducted a Raymond Pond and Crescent Lake grant project (#2001R-03) and addressed 10 sites on Raymond Pond.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of the Raymond Pond project was to significantly reduce erosion and export of sediment and phosphorus into Raymond Pond. Conservation practices were installed on 21 large erosion sites. Nine residential matching grants were awarded to help landowners fix lower impact sites.

Project updates were distributed to the watershed community through articles in the RWPA newsletter; a project brochure that was sent to all watershed landowners at the start of the project; and annual project updates. Project staff delivered presentations about the project at the annual meetings of RWPA and several road associations. ‘Cruise the Buffers’ boat tours were held in the summer of 2007 and 2009 to highlight the value of buffers and showcase completed projects. Over 50 volunteers attended six hands-on workshops and helped install conservation practices at project sites.



PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Conservation practices were installed to fix erosion problems at 21 high and medium impact erosion sites including one town road, seven private roads, six driveways and seven residential properties. Work included the installation of 7 new culverts, 10 rubber razor diverters, 2 rain gardens, 143 plants, 27 infiltration steps, 5 sediment basins, 12 waterbars and 7 infiltration trenches.
- Matching grants up to \$300 were awarded to another 9 landowners to address lower impact residential sites. Technical assistance was provided to 7 more landowners.
- Pollutant loading to Raymond Pond was reduced by an estimated 8.1 tons of sediment and 6.8 pounds of phosphorus per year (Region 5 Method and WEPP Model).
- Local match for the project totaled \$95,363, more than double the original project goal. Much of this match can be attributed to the extraordinary involvement of the Town of Raymond, road associations and over 50 volunteers that attended workshops and helped neighbors install conservation practices on their properties.



PROJECT PARTNERS:

Portland Water District
Raymond Waterways Protective Association

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Suggested Citation:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2011) "Nonpoint Source Management Program 2010 Annual Report," Document# DEPLW-1205 2011. Augusta: MDEP.