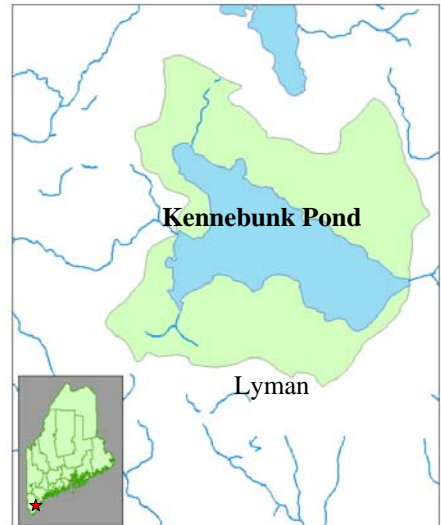


Kennebunk Pond Watershed Survey

#2002-09

Waterbody Name: Kennebunk Pond
Location: Lyman - York County
Waterbody Status: NPS Priority Watershed, Most At Risk
Project Grantee: York County SWCD
Project Duration: April 2002 – February 2004
319 Grant Amount: \$6,152
Local Match: \$6,257



PROBLEM:

Kennebunk Pond has a surface area of 224 acres. Its watershed covers 500 acres (0.75 square miles) and is part of the larger Kennebunk River Watershed. The pond's shoreline is highly developed with about 150 seasonal camps and year-round homes, and includes a town-owned beach and boat ramp near the outlet of the pond. The pond has been monitored since 1980, and the data indicates that the lake has high depletion of dissolved oxygen in the deep waters in late summer. As a result, Kennebunk Pond is listed on the NPS Priority Watersheds list and list of lakes "Most at Risk from New Development" under the Maine Stormwater Law.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The primary purpose of the project was to identify, document and prioritize soil erosion sites in the Kennebunk Pond Watershed and to recommend conservation practices for each site. The secondary purpose of the project was to help raise community awareness and encourage the mitigation of identified erosion problems.

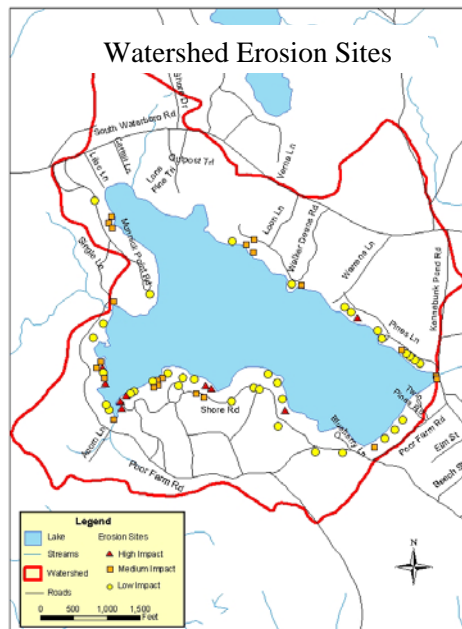
Survey methods were based on those outlined in a *Citizen's Guide to Lake Watershed Surveys*. On May 18, 2002, 21 volunteers were trained to identify erosion problems, rate water quality impact and develop recommendations. Volunteers also recorded information about the size and type of vegetation along the shorefront. In total, 130 sites were identified that are impacting or have the potential to impact the lake.



Technical staff compiled the survey data, developed maps and created the ***Kennebunk Pond Watershed Survey Report***. Color reports were distributed to municipal officials and about 200 landowners and a presentation was delivered at the KPA's annual meeting and a Lyman Select Board meeting. Project staff also estimated pollutant load associated with medium and high impact sites and conducted a survey to assess the effectiveness of the training.

PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Project staff and volunteers surveyed the entire Kennebunk Pond Watershed and documented 130 erosion sites. They also developed preliminary recommendations and rated the impact to the lake and the cost and technical level required to fix each site.
- The *Kennebunk Pond Watershed Survey Report* (July, 2003) was produced. The report summarizes watershed survey findings, lists specific information on each identified site and outlines next steps for watershed stewardship.
- Staff estimated that approximately 18 tons of sediment washes into the pond each year from the 26 high and medium impact sites (Region 5 Method).
- Almost a year after the survey training, staff sent questionnaires to the 21 volunteers to assess the effectiveness of the training. Of the 16 returned surveys, 9 indicated that they had taken measures to improve their properties and most seemed to understand the pollution issues facing the pond. All respondents seemed to like the training format and felt like the project was well worth their time.
- The project helped spark stewardship on many levels. Seven property owners requested technical assistance; the Lyman Conservation Commission was reestablished after the presentation to the Select Board; and neighboring lake associations stepped up their lake protection efforts.



PROJECT PARTNERS:

Kennebunk Pond Association

Town of Lyman

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Suggested Citation:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection (2005) "Nonpoint Source Management Program Annual Report 2004," Document# DEPLW0701 2005. Augusta: MDEP.