



To Whom It May Concern:

**Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs) on duty at the Public Boat Launch on East Pond are our only personal means of communication with the public. Invasive Plants are being carried from state to state and lake to lake in and on boats, motors, trailers, bilges, live wells, fishing lines and duck decoy lines.** Unfortunately, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, who manage the East Pond Public Boat Launch, does not allow any type of kiosk for posting educational documents.

In 2023, the East Pond Association spent \$14,999 for 991 hours of paid Courtesy Boat Inspectors time (plus an additional 122 volunteer hours) inspecting 694 boats. **It is essential that we continue to monitor boat activity at the Public Boat Launch utilizing Courtesy Boat Inspectors. It costs less to inspect watercraft and boating equipment than it does to eradicate an Invasive Infestation.**

Maine has 6 species of Invasive Plants located in 35 lakes and waterways. **Curly-leaf Pondweed (CLP)**, a highly aggressive, noxious, aquatic, perennial weed was discovered in the Serpentine of East Pond prior to the dam which flows into North Pond. Since 2021 the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and 7 Lakes Alliance have been using dive teams to control the infestation by hand pulling plants as these plants do not respond well to Aquatic Herbicides. Unfortunately, several floating fragments of CLP were found in North Pond. We believe that those fragments migrated over the dam and past two fragment nets during excessively high water levels.

As a result of trespassers who manipulated the East Pond dam gates, The East Pond Association needs to hire a contractor who can build a coffer dam, repair the dam's cement structure, remove gates, add rubber gaskets, and replace center pylon bolts. **The estimate for these repairs, which we anticipate doing in 2024, is \$20,000.** Repairs should be performed at the lowest possible water level.

**The East Pond Association sincerely appreciates your continuing support. Please help us keep those essential Courtesy Boat Inspectors at the East Pond state owned Public Boat Launch.**

*Edith Cornwall* - President  
289 Brickett Point Ests.  
Oakland, ME 04963

[ediened@roadrunner.com](mailto:ediened@roadrunner.com)

(207) 649-9896

**The East Pond Association is dedicated to promoting the protection and enhancement of water quality in East Pond and to preserving its ecological, economic, recreational, and aesthetic value.**

East Pond Association is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization  
[www.eastpond.org](http://www.eastpond.org)