

Town of Windham
Env. & Sustainability Department

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MEMO

DATE: May 7, 2025

TO: Windham Town Council
THROUGH: Barry Tibbetts, Town Manager
FROM: Natural Resources Advisory Committee

RE: 2024 Watershed Protection Grant Final Report Summary

At the Town Council meeting on May 14, 2024, the Natural Resources Advisory Committee (NRAC) provided recommendations for the 2024 Watershed Protection Grant, which was approved by the Council.

A table of the approved funding is below:

Project Name	Applicant	Funding
Invasive Milfoil – ‘Get Rid of It’ Campaign	Collins Pond Improvement Association	\$5,000.00
Highland Shore Road Improvements	Duck Pond West Road Association	\$15,338.00
Milfoil Remediation Program & Water Quality Testing	Little Sebago Lake Association	\$15,329.00
Candlewyck/Pilgrim Project	North Highland Lake Road Association	\$2,170.00
49 Highland Shore Road	Joe Grabraz	\$2,044.00
LLL Drainage Improvement Project, Phase 1	Lower Lantern Lane Road Association	\$5,600.00
Total		\$45,481.00

As required in the application to ensure project completion, final reports were submitted to the NRAC (reports linked in the table above). Project highlights of the individual applications are included on pages 2-4.

The summary Town funding relevant to applicant match and other leveraged funding sources is below. For every \$1 of Town grant funds awarded, the Watershed Protection Grant Program resulted in \$3 in match.

Final amount awarded to applicants from the Town	\$45,481.00
Total match from grant recipients (volunteer in-kind + cash)	\$94,197.00
Total match from grant recipients with all funding sources included (less Windham’s award)	\$135,197.00

- **Collins Pond Improvement Association**

- Second year of herbicide treatment plan developed with DEP. Herbicide application performed August 14, 2024.
- DEP staff monitored water quality during application. Native plants were unaffected. There were no concerns about toxicity to fish or other wildlife.
- A swim survey using mask and snorkel was performed by a volunteer in September and did not locate any milfoil plants. A diver survey on October 30th in the deeper areas of the lake detected no healthy milfoil plants. Results show in Figure 1.

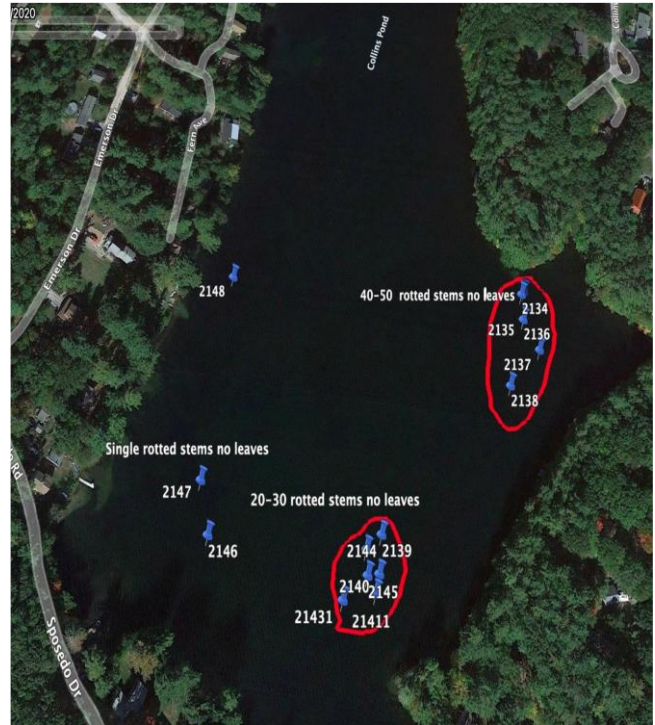


Figure 1. October 2024 Post-treatment dive survey results

- **Duck Pond West Road Association**

- Installed a proper road drainage system to stop the chronic, long-term erosion of the road.
- Upgrades included:
- Rip-rap lined ditch on up-gradient side of road.
 - Enlarged plunge pools on inlet side of culvert.
 - Regrading road to drain to new, stabilized ditch.
- Several large rainstorms occurred following project completion; no erosion observed.
 - The ditch was cleared of leaves last fall as part of the long-term maintenance of the system.



Figure 2. Reggraded road and new rip-rapped ditch

- **Little Sebago Lake Association**

- Removed 204.5 bags of milfoil from the Windham portion of the lake (320 total bags) during the 2024 season.
- The milfoil team welcomed Jason Smith demonstrating the use of an underwater camera to search for areas of milfoil.
- An underwater video showing the diver identifying and meticulously removing milfoil was posted on [LSLA's website](#) and Facebook page to educate lake residents.



Figure 3. LSLA milfoil boat on the move!

- **North Highland Lake Road Association**

- Upgraded the upper end of Candlewyck Road/Pilgrim Lane from a dirt road with no grading/ditching:
 - Stabilized road with additional gravel.
 - Compacted and crown road to shed runoff.
 - Established ditching on both sides of road to connect to existing ditch.
- NHLRA will monitor the project and provide routine grading of the road and ditch cleaning.



Figure 4. Proper compaction and crowing of road surface

- **Joe Grabraz**

- Project designed to shed water from driveway, preventing a channel from eroding the center of the road.

Steps taken included:

- Slope driveway South to North
- Regrade driveway to shed runoff, adding 4.5"
- Reset 3 existing water bars
- Install rip-rap swale outlets and check dams.



Figure 5. Regraded driveway and reset water bars

- **Lower Lantern Lane Road Associaton**

- Requesting modifying the scope of work following increased contractor cost, evaluation of erosion sources.

Highlights of work accomplished to date include:

- 4 volunteer days in 2024, surpassing expected volunteer hours with all members participating.
- Cleared out/restored 3 existing culvert systems unrelated to this project, having a positive impact on the current erosion issues.
- Met with Chris Baldwin, CCSWCD Engineer, along with Town Engineer and Environmental & Sustainability Coordinator, to discuss priorities for long-term success.
- Currently confirming annual maintenance days for spring, summer and fall 2025.
- Goal to restore upper Lantern Lane to gravel, regrade, and recrown surface to shed water at top of road.
- Phase 2 goal to install cross culvert halfway down the road.
- Exploring short-maintenance options for bottom of road, while determining longer-term permanent solutions including road closure.