



## Letter From the President By Lynda Rheäume

I have heard many lake property owners say that they own a slice of heaven, right here in Vermont. This summer proved that statement to be true in my mind. Weather was great, the bugs were limited, our waters were relatively safe and our milfoil crew worked at identifying and eradicating the invasive plant. The milfoil crew spent two days a week (many weeks) at Fern Lake to gain control over the number of new outcroppings this lake had. As a resident on Fern Lake, I really appreciated their diligence. This past week when my husband, Ray, and I were returning from a kayak ride, we sighted a brown mass attached to a pipe under our dock. We removed it to check it out and decided to do some research as to what it might be. Our research resulted in some good news for the lakes water quality. We dis-

covered this jelly like blob is called Bryozoa. Bryozoa is an aquatic animal that filters water for their food. Like sponges, they feed on small microorganisms. They do not live in water that is contaminated. Bryozoaes may even help keep the water clear. In the fall, as the waters cool, the Bryozoa dies; the jelly dissolves and releases slatoblasts. These slatoblasts can remain dormant for some time, withstanding drying and freezing, to survive the winter and start new colonies next year. Now that we are educated, we will not disturb them when they choose to latch on to our pipes under the dock.

Please look through the newsletter to learn about more wonderful work being done around the lake. I thank the association members who serve on the board. The

Board is comprised of twelve association members (plus an Executive Secretary). Each member serves a three year term which may be renewed once. As landowners and residents of the lake communities, these people are representing you, our membership.

Terms for three directors expire each year, and we look to our association membership to fill vacant positions. If you would like to learn more about helping us preserve the lakes. Please call 802-247-2337 evenings, or email me:

[lynrheäume@comcast.net](mailto:lynrheäume@comcast.net) . Other board members are listed within this newsletter, and would welcome hearing from you as well.

## Annual Picnic Recap By Joyce Shultz Lynda Rheäume

We had a beautiful Sunday afternoon for our Annual Lake Association picnic sponsored by Keewaydin. The event keeps getting better and better! Keewaydin outdid themselves with the hot-off-the-grill, delicious, and plentiful buffet. Their timing was perfect, and they were quick to meet any request we made to them. During the buffet, before the entertainment, Ellen Flight, director of Songadeewin, accepted a donation check from the Lake Association as our way of thanking Keewaydin for current and past support to

our Milfoil program, for stewardship of the lake, and generosity towards the lake community. We appreciate our neighbors around the lake.

This year the Social Committee chose a theme of "The Places We Go" for our picnic. Location signs were posted for different regions of the United States, inviting people from different regions to meet near their specific region sign. This allowed people to meet others who travel from the same area to summer in Salisbury and

Leicester.

Maiden Vermont, our a capella entertainment, highlighted their program with many references to Dr. Suess' book "The Places We Go". This group of fifteen singers were well received again this year. If you have not attended our Social before or if it has been some time since you have been able to schedule this highlight, we hope you will be able to join us next year. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your neighbors over good food and fellowship.

## My View of the Lake By: Susan Patterson

---

Recently, the Burlington, Vermont Chamber of Commerce hired a big city public relations firm to come up with a motto for the city. The end result, "Burlington: the West Coast of New England," is neither new (I've been hearing it since I arrived in the early 70s) nor terribly clever, but evidently cost quite a bit of money paid out to the consultants. The town was all a buzz after the newspaper ran a list of the 10 finalist mottos, some pretty dorky, and none any better than the recycled one we ended up with. Everyone seemed to think they could have done better or knew someone who could.

This got me thinking about a motto for our lakes region. Our association has a beautiful mast head designed and painted by our own resident artist Warren Kimble. Maybe it would be fun to run our own contest for a motto. No outside experts needed, just suggestions from the people who love Fern Lake and Lake

Dunmore and choose to spend their quality time basking in the loveliness, tranquility, and beauty surrounding us here.

I actually have mixed feeling about anything that would attract more people to Lake Dunmore. My friends on the lake who rent their camp most of the summer don't seem to have any difficulty keeping it full, and the loon family on Dunmore probably joins me in appreciating the lack of boat traffic. Considering how many camps are around Dunmore, I am constantly amazed how peaceful and quiet it is most of the time. And Fern Lake even more so.

But I like words and the way they can fit together to mean more than one thing. Can we capture the spirit and specialness of our lakes in a short phrase? A neighbor in Burlington visited Dunmore for the first time this summer. (People up north think there's only one lake in Vermont - Champlain.) He was very much taken with our lake (of course) and pronounced

it "the best little lake in Vermont". Of course, other acquaintances (certainly not friends) have been known to mention mosquitoes in the same breath as "your lake". But a motto that references our biting mozzies would have been totally wrong this summer!

Since this motto endeavor is strictly among us, we'll enjoy seeing all submissions -- humorous, clever, serious, and colorful. It may be easier to separate Fern Lake from Lake Dunmore for this assignment so feel free to focus on one or the other. Or include Silver Lake as well. We'll publish a list in a future newsletter and let everyone enjoy them. Whether there's any life to the idea after that would be up to the annual meeting group.

Send your ideas, comments, submissions to: Susan Patterson, 67 Robinson Pkwy, Burlington, VT 05401 or to [sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu](mailto:sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu).

## Insect Control By: Linda Pitkin

---

I hope you enjoyed our nearly mosquito-free summer as much as I did! I wish I could take credit for this great summer, but that wouldn't be right.

This year was a perfect example of how, despite the best human efforts, we are ultimately in the hands of Mother Nature. We were fortunate to have cool

spring weather at just the right time to prevent the larvae from hatching and to continue to have good weather conditions throughout the summer. This meant the state and insect control district did very little aerial spraying for larvae or ground spraying for adults the entire time. It also means the district starts next season in black ink for the first time in years.

The Insect Control District let our District Coordinator go during the summer. The district thanks Kim for the good service we received, and we hope he is successful as he goes forward. Paul Doty agreed to be the acting Coordinator to finish the season, and did a fine job taking over.

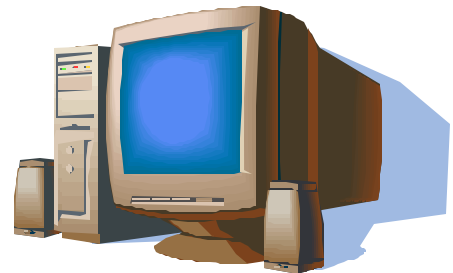
## LDFLA & Technology By: John Ebert

---

We know a lot of you are becoming more and more comfortable with computers and email. Email can cut communication expenses significantly. It is your association and we would like to hear from you. Would you let us know if you are open to email communication from the LDFLA board by sending us an email at

[LDFLA@LAKEDUNMOREVT.COM](mailto:LDFLA@LAKEDUNMOREVT.COM)

We would like to have your email address, and we promise never to share it with outsiders. How about the idea of an electronic newsletter that you could print out? Any thoughts on that? We appreciate your feedback!



## Milfoil Control Program By: Andrew Menkart

---

Milfoil Control Program 2007 - by Andrew Menkart

The milfoil control program ended the 2007 season with over 13,500 plants pulled on both lakes. The number of plants pulled is greater than in recent years.

Milfoil growth has continued aggressively on Fern Lake where the crew pulled approximately 4700 plants during the season. There was a new patch on the west shore and one on the north east shore near the island. The crew spent a lot more time surveying and pulling on Fern Lake this year, and I think it will pay off for us next season.

The full Milfoil Report and maps of both lakes will be posted on the LDFLA website.

The crew members did an excellent job again this season. They all seemed to

enjoy it as well, and we hope that most of them will be back again next year.

Our Shoreline Watch Program has resulted in over 1200 volunteer hours that become part of our overall budget. Thank you to all those who participated. Our final report to the State of VT DEC is being finished now, and we expect to receive the remaining funds due from the state around the end of the year.

Keewaydin Camps is building a new cabin for use as the Milfoil Office at the same location just off West Shore near Rustic Lane. The old cabin has been torn down, and I had hoped to have some pictures for this newsletter, but as of my deadline the construction hadn't started.

As always, I would like to thank Keewaydin Camps, Casella Waste Management, and CVPS for their generous contributions to the program. Thanks also to all the residents of Leicester and Salisbury

who continue to approve financial contributions to the program each year.

If you have questions, please feel free to call me at 802-247-4116.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Plants Pulled</i>
2000	6,141
2001	7,721
2002	7,550
2003	7,895
2004	7,699
2005	11,221
2006	5,558
2007	13,576

## “Toon” Tuesday Evolves By: John Ebert

---

I missed the window to do an update on the “soon to become tradition” of “toon” Tuesday in the spring newsletter, so I'm going to go back to the fall of 2006. We had some hard core “lakers” (my terminology for those that get out and enjoy the ambience of being out on our lake) that stuck with us right through the fall. As the days grew shorter, we had to go out earlier and earlier till we had to terminate the season because of the daylight ending too early. Four of us ended the season on a Thursday, Thanksgiving day, with a cruise around the lake.

We started the 2007 season in May, and our sunset cocktail cruise evolved into a raft up with a “pot luck” dinner every

Tuesday night. It has turned into a top shelf culinary experience. The company has been great. Everybody has had the opportunity to meet a lot of new people because in addition to the core group of “lakers” that come out every week, we always have renters, visitors, and guests that join us occasionally. The loons almost joined us a few times. It seemed the weather was against us for many Tuesdays, and we didn't see the sunset, but it was still nice to be out on the lake. There were a few Tuesdays we were forced to be inside, but we never cancelled.

Today is Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and the forecast for this week is again to have temperatures in the 70's. We had 20 people with us last week

((9/25) September was like summer this year. Few of us have donned our long pants and jackets so far, but we know that is coming...along with the colors of fall foliage.

We invite you to join us sometime! You do not have to have a pontoon boat or any kind of boat. We will pick you up at your dock. Our raft-ups last 1 to 1 1/2 hrs.

You can call me at 352-9392.

## 2007 Membership By: Lynne Peck

---

A sincere thank you to all who supported us this season through dues contributions. The 2007 season has ended with a total of 343 memberships. Again, I have

to report this number is down as compared to last year's ending number of 348. Although it's not an alarming number, just down by five, it concerns me that for the

past three years our membership has decreased rather than increased. In 2003 the previous treasurer took in dues for 342 total memberships. In 2004, my first

## 2007 Membership Cont.

---

year as treasurer, we took in dues for 371 total memberships. In 2005 we declined to 364. In 2006 we went down to 348, and here in 2007, we are down to 343.

For 2007 we score an overall participation rate of 77%. Our best year, in 2004, we scored an 83% participation rate.

In general I prefer to focus on the positive, remembering that the majority of property owners support the association, but in a time when the state is decreasing funding for some of our activities, like milfoil abatement and mosquito control, and those expenses are rising, every

membership counts.

Again, thank you for your support, but remember when the request comes your way in the spring, each and every membership is important to the fiscal health of our organization. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to participate. Displaying dock tags is an excellent way to show support. All tags for 2007 have been mailed. If yours has gone missing, however, I am happy to replace it for you. I also have some extras from previous years to replace missing or broken older tags. I would welcome your request.

We have mailed directories to all dues paying households. Please check your listing. We have been informed of some errors and will be working on corrections. Your help is essential.

We still have maps available. The maps have not changed. Every member should have a map. If yours needs to be replaced or you'd like an extra, they are \$10.00. Maps are also offered to the general public for \$35.00.

For maps, directories, and / or membership questions I can be reached at (802) 545-2151 or [lynnpeck@gmavt.net](mailto:lynnpeck@gmavt.net)

## Loons On Lake Dunmore—Please Share the Lake

---

By: Eric Hansen

A loon chick hatched out in mid-July on Lake Dunmore for the first times since the early 1900s. This is one of the most exciting moments in the Vermont Loon Recovery Project's (VLRP) conservation efforts of the past 30 years, in part, because one of the few documents about loon presence in Vermont has been revisited. In 1902, Reginald Howe wrote in "Contributions to North American Ornithology" that the Common Loon "breeds not uncommonly on Bomoseen, Memphremagog, Dunmore, and elsewhere." The loons disappeared from the region sometime after 1902, and until 1995, there were no loons nesting within 45 miles; now there are six pairs.

As the biologist for the VRLP, I want to thank everyone on the lake for helping make this first nesting attempt a success. In 2006, volunteers and residents reported seeing loons all summer; thus the VLRP knew to monitor the lake more in 2007. A former VLRP biologist, Sally Buteau, spends time at a family camp (Borden/Fenn) on the lake and observed nest searching behavior in mid-June; thus we put out the "nest warning signs" just in case. The VLRP and Sally contacted the lake association, state park, the youth camps, the campgrounds and marinas, and the game warden to let them know the island might be used for

loon nesting.

Asking people to avoid this privately owned island until mid July would be a challenge, since many people fish near its shores, picnic on it, etc. Gratefully, most people respected the signs and stayed away. Usually loon nests are very visible with the loon sitting 1-2 feet from the water's edge. This makes loon nests very vulnerable to disturbance, and was a major reason the Vermont loon population dropped to 7 nesting pairs in 1983; there were 62 nest attempts in 2007. This nest was a bit more hidden with some shrubs next to it. This was good because the loon would less likely flush off the nest when boaters who did not read the signs got too close.

The VLRP asks that people take extra care to 1) SLOW DOWN when loons are nearby and 2) WATCH FROM A DISTANCE. Please use binoculars to watch the loon family to avoid harassing them. Do not pursue them for a close look. If you cause the loons to stop resting or feeding, making them call out or swim away, you are too close. There have been several boat hits documented in Vermont. This is of concern on Lake Dunmore, where there is lots of boating activity. We also ask anglers to REEL IN when loons are diving nearby. A sub adult loon (1-2 year old) died on Lake Dunmore this

summer after ingesting live bait. The game warden and I spent many days trying to capture it, but I was not successful until it was too weak to recover. There were 4-5 sub adults on the lake this summer, usually at the north end.

The pair will be back in 2008 for us to watch and enjoy and respect. For more information about the VLRP, volunteering, and donating, please contact Eric Hansen at (802) 586-8064, PO Box 22, Craftsbury, VT 05826 or [ehanson@vmlink.net](mailto:ehanson@vmlink.net). Over 60% of the VLRP budget comes from donations. Checks can be made out to the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. Loons would not be successful on busy lakes like Dunmore without VLRP management and outreach efforts. The VLRP is a non-profit program of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies and works cooperatively with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.



## Water Quality By: Paula Wilson

---

What a beautiful summer. Our milfoil crew collected the samples needed for our annual testing of E. Coli on August 14th. This year, seventeen sites on Lake Dunmore and four sites on Fern Lake were tested (see page 6 for results). Our aim is to test for E. Coli during peak occupancy levels. The samples, however, should not be collected directly after a rain storm. This proved to be a challenge in July when we had so much rain.

All sites tested passed the state standards. Some camps may have old or out-

dated septic systems that may not be functioning properly. If you are unsure about the performance of your septic system, please contact me and I can provide you with color dye tablets that you can use to test your system.

Watch for our plant exchange to take place early summer 2008. The Water Quality Committee will offer (and give you the opportunity to contribute) perennials that are appropriate for you to plant on your lake property. We hope this exchange will encourage lake residents to maintain a plant buffer around the edge of

our lakes to minimize polluting run-off into the lakes. More information will be in the Spring Newsletter.

Educating ourselves and our neighbors is key to supporting good water quality of our lake. Lynda Rheame and I are putting together an environmental pamphlet that we will be sending out in our spring newsletter. Our hope is that it will increase public awareness and have a positive impact on our little piece of paradise. I am always happy to hear your comments and concerns.

## Water Safety By: Lynda Rheame

---

Lake Dunmore gets very busy with a variety of watercraft throughout the summer. It is very important that each individual operator be conscious of their surroundings and use caution around **Divers Down Flags, kayaks, canoes, sailboats** and, most importantly, **swimmers**. It is the law to maintain a 5 mile per hour speed within 200 feet of people in the water and slower boats. State moneys to have Vermont State Police and US Fish and Wildlife wardens on the lake have been slashed; we need to

monitor ourselves. This summer the No Wake - 5 mph. Buoy in the north cove was missing. This buoy is one that is maintained by the State Police. Unfortunately the police had exhausted their budget and were unable to replace it this year. Without the reminder, many people operating boats were not maintaining proper speed. The Association decided to cover the expense and replace the buoy. John Ebert, one of our board members, got a replacement, installed it, and will remove it before winter sets in. Even

though the presence of State officials is not as frequent as we would like, they are monitoring periodically and welcome your input if you see infractions that need correcting. Late June 2008, we will again be offering the state Boaters Safety Course in conjunction with the Middlebury Recreation Department. The course is for those 12 years or older. Please watch for more information as enrollment will be limited.



## 2006 Trustees

LDFLA · P.O. Box 14 · Salisbury · Vermont · 05769

Lynda Rheame 802-388-2337  
P O Box 655  
Middlebury, VT 05740  
(2009) President

Linda Pitkin 802-388-3229  
556 Weybridge St.  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
(2010) Insect Control

Lynne Peck 802-545-2151  
755 James Road  
Weybridge, VT 05753  
(2008) Finance/Membership

Andrew Menkart 802-247-4116  
PO Box 188  
Forest Dale, VT 05745  
(2008) Milfoil

Shawn Banfield 802-223-1197  
189 Grandview Tr.  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
(2009) Legislative

Susan Patterson 802-658-7496  
67 Robinson Parkway  
Burlington, VT 05402  
(2010) S.O.C, Newsletter

Neil Mackey 802-388-6311  
P O Box 725  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
(2009) Nominating

Paula Wilson 802-483-2269  
19 Horton Hill Rd.  
Chittenden, VT  
(2008) Water Quality

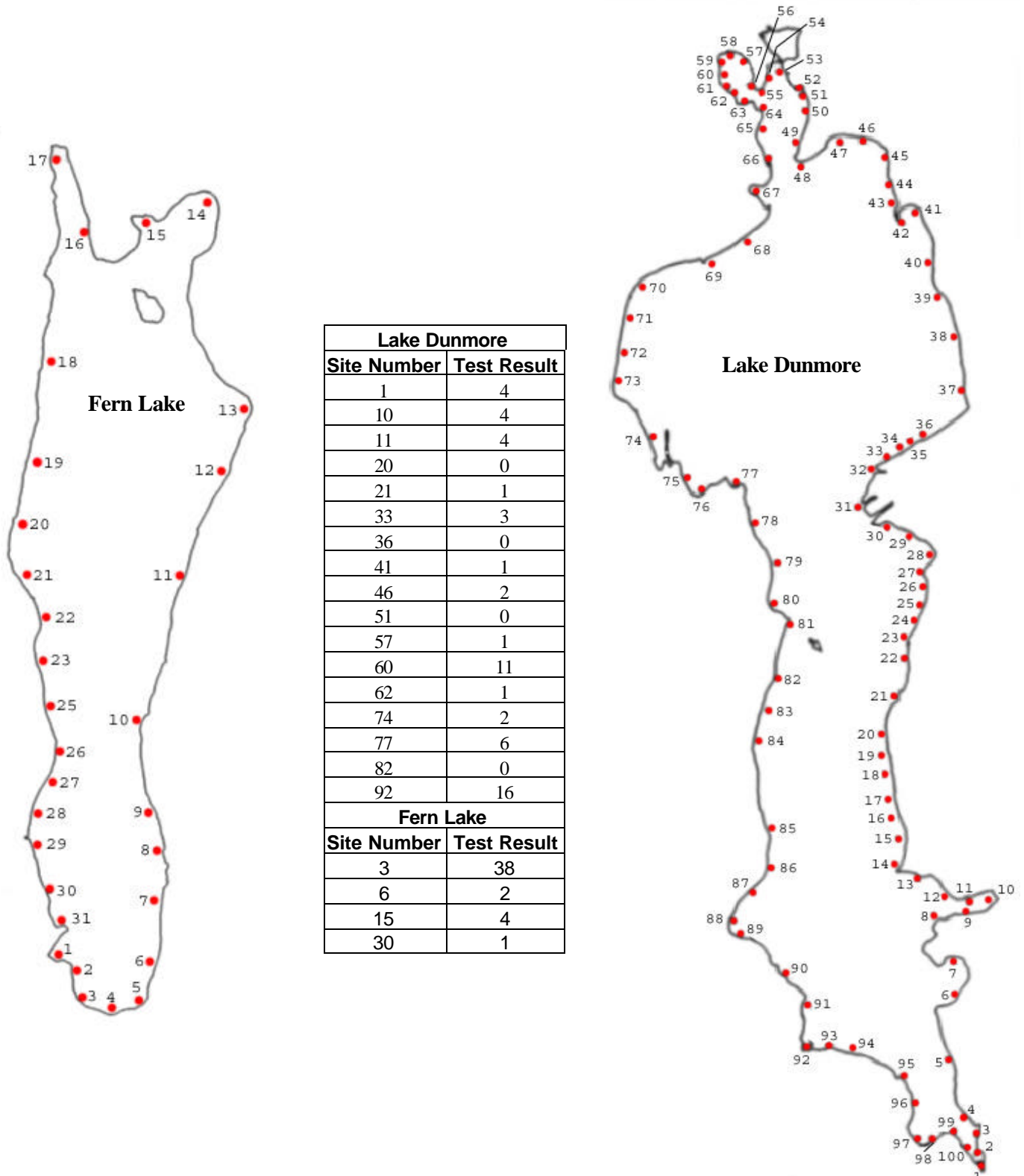
Rosie Spaun ###-###-####  
Waiting To Hear  
Middlebury, VT 05740  
(2010) Finance

Joyce Shultz 802-352-1029  
P.O Box 152  
Salisbury, VT 05769  
(2008) Zoning

Tim Tadlock  
Camp.Keewaydin  
Salisbury, VT 05769  
(2009)

John Ebert ###-###-####  
Waiting To Hear  
Salisbury, VT 05769  
(2010) Social Events

# 2007 Water Quality Results



The results in the chart are based on the Vermont Health Departments safe swimming guidelines. The Health Department states that a count of over 77 counts of E. Coli per 100 mL of water is not suitable for swimming. The data shown is the quantity of E. Coli found in the water sample taken.